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Basic & Intermediate



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**ALL YOU NEED
TO SPEAK
ENGLISH
CORRECTLY**

Fast English

English Grammar in Templates

by Den Snowell

All you need to speak English correctly

Essential Grammar Guide in Templates

*Never be wrong
Build you skills
Sharpen your style*

Book 1

Past, Present and Future Simple tenses

NO MORE GRAMMAR RULES AND THICK BOOKS!

English grammar is presented in the **Grammar Templates** which **visually illustrate** the correct construction of English sentences on any topic of grammar.

In order **to compose any English sentence**, you just need **to read the template** from left to right. Each template provides **multiple options** for constructing sentences **and sufficient vocabulary** to use English for everyday communication.

Each template is provided with a **short explanation** and has a **"key"** - variants of sentences that can be constructed with this template (*see Appendices*).

In the Book 1, we only consider **the Simple tenses** (Past Simple, Present Simple and Future Simple) in the active voice. **Simple tenses** are used in **85%** of conversations. The **other types of tenses**, as well as the **passive voice** and **all grammar topics** related to other types of tenses, will be presented **in the second part** of this book.

THE PRINCIPLE OF GRAMMAR TEMPLATES

Any language is based on 3 main parts:

1. **Personal pronouns**
2. The most frequently used **verbs TO BE, TO HAVE, TO DO** and constructions based on them
3. **Vocabulary** (minimum 500 frequency words)

The verbs **TO BE** and **TO HAVE** are the most commonly used verbs in the English language and have specific features in usage. The verb **TO DO** represents all verbs (except modal) of the English language and the rules for their use.

Therefore, in each topic of grammar, we consider these 3 verbs and their constructions. For convenience of visual perception, these structures are highlighted in color:

1. TO BE and adjectives – **green**
2. TO HAVE and nouns – **brown**
3. TO DO (and other verbs) – **blue**

Complementary colors:

- Adverbs – **yellow**
- Question words – **black**
- Time markers – **orange**

CONTENT

1. Verb TO BE - forms and usage in statements and general questions.
2. Verb TO HAVE - forms and usage in statements and general questions, countable and uncountable nouns.
3. Verb TO DO and other verbs - forms and usage in statements and general questions, regular and irregular verbs.
4. General Tag Questions
5. Indirect General Questions
6. Special Questions – Part 1
7. Special Questions – Part 2
8. Indirect Special Questions
9. Infinitive – Statements
10. Infinitive – Questions
11. Complex Object with Infinitive
12. Complex Object with Zero Infinitive and Participle 1
13. There is / There are
14. Degrees of Comparison – Adjectives
15. Degrees of Comparison – Adverbs
16. Conditional 1 - Statements
17. Conditional 1 - Questions
18. Conditional 1 – Other Cases

Grammar Keys

- To Be, To Have, To Do
- General Questions
- Special Questions
- Infinitive
- Complex Object
- There is / There are
- Comparison Of Adjectives
- Comparison Of Adverbs
- Conditional 1

1. TO BE – Statements And General Questions

Simple Tenses

AFFIRMATIVE	Past	Pres.	Future
I	was	am	will be
He She It Everybody Nobody		is	
We You They		are	

NEGATIVE	Past	Pres.	Future
I	was not	am not	won't be
He She It Everybody		is not	
We You They		are not	

Past	Pres.	Future	+QUESTION
Was	Am	Will	I
	Is		he she It everybody nobody
Were	Are		we you they

Past	Pres.	Future	-QUESTION
Wasn't	Aren't	Won't	I
	Isn't		he she It everybody
Weren't	Aren't		we you they

Name Time	Age Ordinals	Nationality Colors	Profession Occupation
--------------	-----------------	-----------------------	--------------------------

Location			
in here at home at the hospital in hospital on leave on sick leave	out there at school at the airport in Italy on holiday on pension	away near at work at the station in London on duty on vacation	back far at Jones's at the stop in prison on strike on a business trip

Appearance			
handsome fat ugly	short slim pretty	beautiful slender bald	tall thin pale

Conditions			
born young deaf divorced (from) strong healthy hungry (for) late (for) hot worried (about) disappointed drunk mistaken in trouble in a hurry	new (to) old dumb married (to) weak ill/insane thirsty (for) tired (of) cold exited (about) satisfied (with) lucky wrong in power in safety	sure poor pregnant a bachelor happy (with) crazy (at) angry (with) busy (with) lonely annoyed (with) nervous afraid (of) right in love (with) in despair	sleepy rich blind single famous (of) sick (with) upset (with) free sad scared (of) bored (with) sober ready (for) in debt in danger

Positive features			
well-bred polite (to) merry prudent sincere careful educated	clever generous cheerful patient sociable earnest faithful (to)	honest (with) kind (to) witty cultured reliable enterprising emotional	modest decent frank calm brave wise proud (of)

Negative features			
ill-bred frivolous fussy jealous (of) moody	silly naughty greedy selfish nosy	stupid lazy impudent tiresome cross	rude (to) mean sly boring shy

very
too
rather
somewhat
a bit
quite

be

be

in the morning in the evening in the afternoon in 2 hours	in 1999 in winter in October on October 15 th on Monday	now (then) at 6 o'clock 2 days ago next week last year
--	--	--

?

2. TO HAVE – Statements And General Questions

Simple Tenses

POSITIVE	Past	Pres.	Future
I We You They	had	have	will have
He She It Everybody Nobody		has	

SIMPLE NEGATIVE

NEGATIVE	Past	Pres.	Future
I We You They	didn't have	don't have	won't have
He She It Everybody Nobody		doesn't have	

Past	Pres.	Future	QUESTION
Did ----- Didn't	Do ----- Don't	Will ----- Won't	I we you they
	Does ----- Doesn't		he she it everybody nobody

both ... and ...
either ... or ...
neither ... nor ...
not only... but also ...

a lot of | enough | some

few a few (too) many	little a little (too) much
----------------------------	----------------------------------

any | enough

a / the many	much
-----------------	------

Singular a (n)+ Plural +s

- | | |
|--|---|
| friend
enemy
relative
brother
sister
niece
nephew
uncle
aunt
family
husband
wife
daughter
son
fiancé
fiancée
lover
kid
neighbor
car
house
umbrella
book
ticket
idea
date
thing
problem
fault
asset
duty
right
debt
doubt
answer
question
holiday
impression
illusion
suggestion
suit
shirt
hat
coat
skirt
dress | work
time
news
glory
love
courage
happiness
progress
experience
patience
success
power
strength
freedom
money
fun
joy
pity
mercy
shame
currency
wine
water
food
fruit
milk
meat
fish
sugar
salt
bread
butter
coal
oil
cotton
wool
wood
cattle
poultry
petrol
iron |
|--|---|

no

(without a(n))

have

?

Actions or Conditions

a +	dance	word	nap	toothache
wonderful	rest	meal	shave	headache
terrible	walk	trip	snack	head cold
good	smoke	party	break	cold
bad	drink	ball	baby	fever
nice	row	feast	day off	cough
	fight	argue	swim	wedding
	quarrel	dream	run	honeymoon
	talk	bath	sleep	cup of tee
	chat	shower	wash	cup of coffee
	with (someone)			

3. TO DO – Statements And General Questions

Simple Tenses

POSITIVE

	Past	Pres.	Future
I We You They	...+ed	...	will ...
He She It Everybody Nobody	or V2	...+s	

NEGATIVE

	Past	Pres.	Future
I We You They	didn't ...	don't ...	won't ...
He She It Everybody Nobody		doesn't ...	

QUESTION

Past	Pres.	Future	
Did ----- Didn't	Do ----- Don't	Will ----- Won't	I we you they
	Does ----- Doesn't		he she it everybody nobody

- in the morning
- in the evening
- in the afternoon
- in 2 hours
- in 1999
- in winter
- in October
- on October 15th
- on Monday
- now (then)
- at 6 o'clock
- 2 days ago
- next week
- last year

V2

say	said	it / something		
pay give lend bring	paid gave lent brought	me her him us you them	some / more	money milk sugar bread water
read write sell send sing tell get	read wrote sold sent sang told got		a / another	letter ticket song story flower
build buy find make draw get	built bought found made drew got	me her him us you them	a / another	house job dress flower ticket

regular + ed

love	cure	pour	tease	fire
need	envy	promise	betray	receive
marry	bother	deceive	punish	offer
believe	admire	answer	obey	greet
praise	spoil	refuse	annoy	invite
rob	hire	show	adore	order
offend	help	hate	join	follow
kill	respect	miss	treat	save
arrest	invite	divorce	call	ask
warn	owe	scold	charm	respect
amuse	cook	rape	blame	kiss

regular with prepositions

smile + ed	lough + ed	at	
look	shout	at	me her him us you them everybody nobody
arrive	stay	at / in / with	
work	play	at / for	
wait	look	for	
borrow	conceal	from	
live	study	in / with	
die	cure	of / from / in	
return	cry	to / for	
listen	toast	to	
complain	lie	to	
describe	explain	to	
propose	prove	to	
dedicate	belong	to	
reply	repeat	to	
apologize	save	to / for	
talk	boast	to / about	
travel	agree	to / with	
dance	smoke	with	
quarrel	argue	with / about	

each of us
none of us
my friend
her father
his wife
our parents
your kids
your sister
their friends
Jack

irregular V2

take	took	SOMETHING	
do	did		NOTHING
drink	drank		ANYTHING (- / ?)
eat	ate		
learn	learnt		
lose	lost		
spend	spent		
choose	chose		
wear	wore		
win	won		SOMEONE
catch	caught		NO-ONE
become	became		
forget	forgot		
know	knew	ANYONE (- / ?)	
see	saw		
feed	fed		
leave	left		
meet	met		
teach	taught		
come	came		
stand	stood	SOMEWHERE	
go	went		
run	ran	NOWHERE	
sit	sat		
sleep	slept		
swim	swam		
dream	dreamt		
think	thought	ANYWHERE (- / ?)	
speak	spoke		

1. TO BE. The most often used verb, has different forms for present and past tenses.

We can talk about Location, Appearance, Conditions, Positive and Negative features.

We can **add Adjectives** for emotional enhancement and **Time markers** to indicate the time of the action.

These **Time markers indicate Simple Tenses**. If you say or mean one of the listed Time marker, you should **use Simple tenses** (Past, Present or Future).

We can **use contractions** (Affirmative: *am = I'm, she is = she's*. And negative: *he is not = he isn't, we are not = we aren't*) in **everyday speech** and informal writing.

Contractions are usually **not** appropriate in **formal writing**.

We use contractions in Negative Questions.

DESCRIBE A PERSON

- She is Lily. She is 25 (years old).
- Lily is American. She is an artist.
- She is a dress designer. Her dress is yellow.
- It is 4 P.M.

+ STATEMENTS (positive)

- I am at home.
- She is at school today.
- They are at work now.
- He was very handsome two years ago.
- You were too short.
- We will be in London next week.

- STATEMENTS (negative)

- I am not rather young.
- Everybody is not quite sure.
- We are not very rich.
- She wasn't polite to me yesterday.
- We were not happy 2 days ago.
- You won't be worried about me in 2 weeks.

+ QUESTIONS (positive)

- Am I right?
- Is he very silly?
- Are we too nosy?
- Was she divorced from him last year?
- Were we ready for the new job last week?
- Will they be ready tomorrow at 5?

- QUESTIONS (negative)

- Aren't I stupid?
- Isn't she pregnant?
- Aren't you busy now?
- Wasn't he rather careful?
- Weren't they somewhat sad?
- Won't he be mistaken tomorrow?

Note!

- Everybody is / was ...
 - Nobody is / was ...
- "Nobody" - only in positive statements but means negative: "Nobody is here".

2. TO HAVE. The second most often used verb, can create simple negative sentences with "no".

We use it when we talk about **what we have or don't have**.

And in some cases it **means actions** (*to have a break = to make a break*) or **conditions** (*to have a headache = to feel pain in your head*).

Is used with countable (can be count) nouns and uncountable (can't be count) nouns.

QUANTITY

In **positive** sentences we use universal adjectives (**a lot of, some, enough**) to talk about quantity. And:

- **few, many** - for countable.
- **little, much** - for uncountable

In **negative** sentences and questions we use universal adjectives (**any, enough**). And:

- **many** - for countable.
- **much** - for uncountable

"Have got" is used in British English and not described in this book.

SINGULAR vs PLURAL

Singular countable: add article "**a(n)**" or "**the**".

Plural countable: add ending "**s**".

+ STATEMENTS (positive)

- She **has** a friend.
- I **had** a lot of success.
- She **has** few enemies.
- We **will have** too much freedom.
- They **have** too many ideas.

SIMPLE NEGATIVE

Just add particle "no" after the verb "have" (have no, has no, had no, will have no). In this case we don't use article.

- I **have no** dog.
- They **will have no** families.
- She **had no** time.

CONJUNCTIONS

She **has both** many friends **and** much money.
I **will have either** few friends **or** lot of money.
We **had neither** time **nor** glory.

Use auxiliary verb "**to do**" (modal verb "**will**" for future tense) to create negative sentences and questions.

- STATEMENTS (negative)

- He **does not have** much money.
- She **won't have** many assets.
- I **don't have** any time.
- I **do not have** fame.
- She **didn't have** any problems.
- We **didn't have** enough glory.

+ QUESTIONS (positive)

- **Do you have** a job?
- **Does he have** much strength?
- **Did we have** many duties?
- **Will they have** any questions?
- **Does she have** a rest?

- QUESTIONS (negative)

- **Don't you have** enough time?
- **Doesn't he have** much wine?
- **Didn't we have** many books?
- **Didn't you have** breakfast?

2. TO DO. And all other verbs (excluding modals).

REGULAR vs IRREGULAR VERBS

Regular – create past form with ending "ed"

- love - loved

Irregular – with **2-nd form (V2)**

- go – went

HOW TO USE TEMPLATE

Put any verb into the grammar table – it will show you the correct way to use verbs in sentences.

Use auxiliary verb "to do" to create questions.

+ STATEMENTS (positive)

- I always **believe** you.
- She never **loved** me.
- He **respects** his parents.
- They will **come** tomorrow.
- We **spent** all money yesterday.
- He **built** me another house.

- STATEMENTS (negative)

- He **didn't** usually **pay** me.
- She **doesn't** **give** some money to him.
- We **didn't** **invite** them.
- I **won't** **send** you a letter.
- I **don't** **meet** anyone here.

+ QUESTIONS (positive)

- **Did he drink** anything?
- **Do you believe** me?
- **Will you find** a job for me?
- **Will he find** me a job next week?
- **Does she know** someone in the city?
- **Does he usually borrow** money from you?

- QUESTIONS (negative)

- **Don't you always teach** her English?
- **Doesn't she betray** him?
- **Didn't they catch** anything?
- **Didn't he tell** us a wonderful story?

4. General Tag Questions

	<	=	>	
I		am	will be	
He She It	was	is		
We You They	were	are		

	<	=	>	
		aren't	won't	I
wasn't		isn't		he she It
weren't		aren't		we you they

very
too
rather
somewhat
a bit
quite

lazy
kind
pretty
ugly
strong
generous
frank
modest
mean
cheerful
weak
greedy

	<	=	>	
I		am not	won't be	
He She It	wasn't	isn't		
We You They	weren't	aren't		

	<	=	>	
		am	will	I
was		is		he she It
were		are		we you they

?

	<	=	>	
I We You They	had	have	will have	
He She It		has		

(a) few
(too) many

(a) little
(too) much

a (n)+
relative
husband
son
illusion
ticket
duty
suit
fault

+s
joy
shame
courage
pity
power
strength
water
wine

enough
some
any

	<	=	>	
		haven't	won't	I we you they
hadn't		hasn't		he she it

	<	=	>	
I We You They	didn't have	don't have	won't have	
He She It		doesn't have		

	<	=	>	
		have	will	I we you they
had		has		he she it

?

	<	=	>	
I We You They	...+ed	...	will ...	
He She It	V2	... +s		

regular
respect
praise
answer
dance
marry
play
study
divorce

irregular V2
teach taught
sell sold
tell told
feed fed
eat ate
wear wore
sing sang
go went

	<	=	>	
		don't	won't	I we you they
didn't		doesn't		he she it

	<	=	>	
I We You They	didn't ...	don't ...	won't ...	
He She It		doesn't ...		

	<	=	>	
		do	will	I we you they
did		does		he she it

5. Indirect General Questions

Simple Tenses

	<	=	>
I		am	will be
He She It Everybody Nobody	was	is	
We You They	were	are	

very
too
rather
somewhat
a bit
quite

silly
greedy
lazy
jealous (of)
moody
impudent
selfish

in love
in a hurry
in despair
in debt
in Paris
in China
in prison

at school
at work
at home
at Jon's
on duty
on leave
on pension

I We You They	ask wonder
He She It Everybody Nobody	asks wonders

If
whether

Could you tell me
Do you know
I'd like to know
I am wondering

	<	=	>
I We You They		have	will have
He She It Everybody Nobody	had	has	

(a) few
(too) many

(a) little
(too) much

a (n)+
enough
some
any

house
fault
problem
idea
thought
job
choice

+s
luck
progress
success
freedom
sugar
love
work

a (n)+	break	walk	drink	quarrel	(with)
	talk	party	argue	dream	
	breakfast	lunch	dinner	tea	coffee

I We You They	always never often usually seldom
He She It Everybody Nobody	

<	=	>
...+ed	...	will ...
or V2	...+s	

regular	+ ed
wait (for)	smoke
refuse	divorce
treat	respect
marry	call (up)(on)
cure	smile (at)
envy	look (at)
die	laugh (at)

irregular	V2
teach	taught
learn	learnt
lose	lost
drink	drank
find	found
swim	swam
think	thought