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# Thank You

**Thank you for downloading this book. I hope it will help you to understand better how the English language works.**

**If you speak French and have some difficulties understanding this all-English version, you can find more explanations in French and practise exercises at:**

**[www.anglais-facile.com](http://www.anglais-facile.com)**

# **Introduction**

There is a big difference between understanding the grammar of a language and being able to speak that language well.

You don't need to understand how a car engine works in order to drive a car.

And you don't need to understand grammar to speak a language.

Knowing grammar will, however, perhaps give you more confidence to speak, as you will be less afraid of making mistakes.

Almost every grammar rule has an exception, so the best way to improve your English is to practise as much as you can.

# **About anglais- facile.com**

[www.anglais-facile.com](http://www.anglais-facile.com) was created to help French speakers learn English for free. You will find explanations of the grammar presented in this book in French as well as lots of good advice on how to learn a foreign language.

## **About Jonathan Lewis**

Jonathan Lewis has taught English in France for six years, and has worked for the French ministry of education (Education Nationale) as teacher and examiner. In his native England, he used to train young people in sales and business administration. He doesn't like the traditional grammar-based approach to language learning, but prefers to teach communicatively, that is, by getting to students to talk in class, while monitoring their use of language. Visit his blog (in English) at:

<http://apprendre-anglais.blogspot.com>

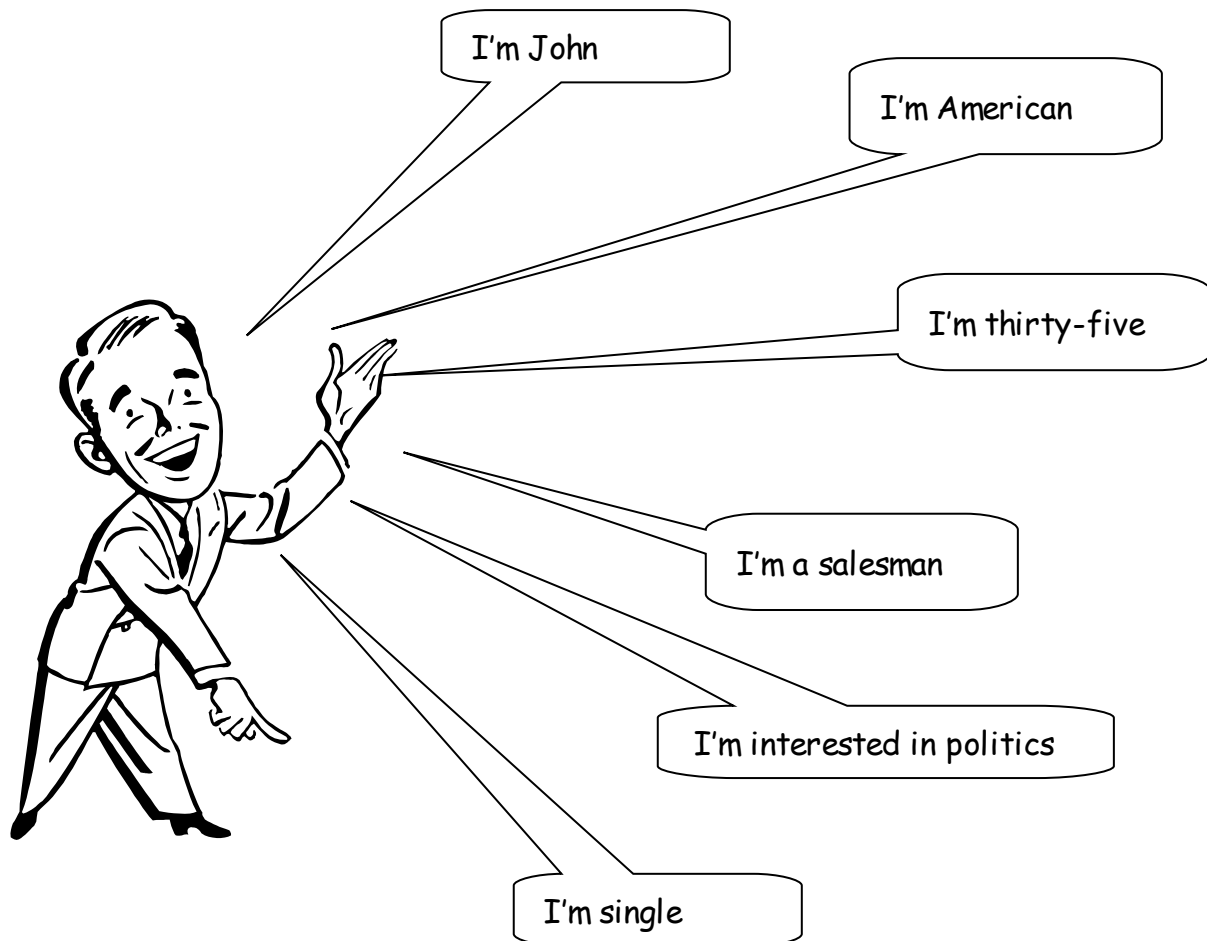
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# Unit 1

## I am (I'm)



This **is** John. He's American, he's thirty-five, he's a salesman.

### Positive

**I am (I'm)**  
**You are (you're)**  
**He is (he's)**  
**She is (she's)**  
**We are (we're)**  
**They are (they're)**

### Negative

**I am not (I'm not)**  
**You are not (you're not)**  
**He is not (he's not)**  
**She is not (she's not)**  
**We are not (we're not)**  
**They are not (they're not)**

# You are → are you?

To make questions, change the verb and the subject:

## Positive

He is French

You are late

They are nurses

## Question

Is he French?

Are you late?

Are they nurses?

**Am/is/are** are the present forms of the verb *to be*. We call this verb a 'state verb'.

## State

- Age: I am thirty
- Nationality: I am French
- Status: I am single/married/divorced
- Profession: I am a teacher/secretary/manager
- Physical state: I am tired/hungry/cold
- Emotional state: I am happy/sad/excited

## Tip

Make a mind map about your life, using 'I am'.



We're hungry !

# Unit 2

## I am doing



He is reading a book



They are running



The sun is shining

The verb 'to be' can be used as an auxiliary verb before other verbs. The verb that follows always has the ending '-ing'.

'to be' represents a present state, so when it's followed by a verb (-ing) it refers to a **present activity**.

- *I'm a teacher, but **I'm not teaching** now, I'm **preparing** a lesson*
- *Susan **is wearing** a pretty dress today*
- *Take an umbrella, **it's raining***





## **Spelling**

Note the following spelling changes:

write → writing

run → running

come → coming

swim → swimming

dance → dancing

sit → sitting

lie → lying

## **Negative**

Place 'not' after the auxiliary:

I'm not sleeping

They're not working -**or** - they aren't working

She's not reading - **or** - she isn't reading

## **Questions**

Change the order of words:

- **Are you** sleeping?
- **Is he** playing?

# Unit 3

## I like/do/go

### The Present Simple

#### Positive

**I like**  
**You like**  
**He likes**  
**She likes**  
**We like**  
**They like**

#### Negative

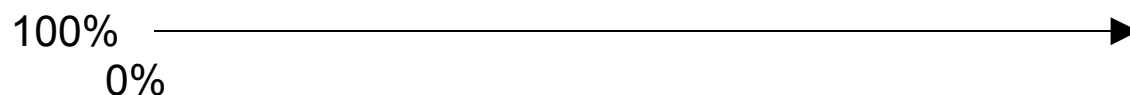
**I don't like**  
**You don't like**  
**He doesn't like**  
**She doesn't like**  
**We don't like**  
**They don't like**

The present simple is used for things in general, and things that happen sometimes or always:

- *The sun rises in the east*
- *I work from nine till five*
- *I like chocolate*
- *I go to the cinema on Saturdays*

To indicate frequency, we use these adverbs:

*always*                      *usually*                      *often*                      *sometimes*  
*never*



- *I always go shopping on Fridays*
- *I usually have coffee with my breakfast, but sometimes I have tea*
- *I never watch American movies*
- *I often buy a newspaper on my way to work*

### **Present simple spelling**

Note the following spelling changes:

*I watch → she watches*

*I kiss → he kisses*

*I wash → she washes*

*I judge → he judges*

*I study → she studie*

*I try → he trie*

*I do → she does*

*I go → he goe*

## **Present simple questions**

We use the verb 'do' as an auxiliary when we ask questions:

- *Do you read a lot?*
- *Do they live here?*
- *Does she like her job?*
- *Do you always arrive early?*
- *What do you usually do in your free time?*



# Unit 4

## have/have got



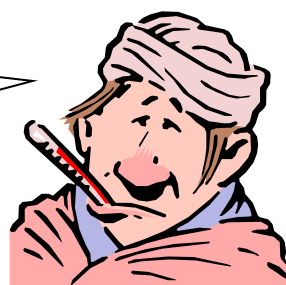
She has blue eyes and black hair

=

She's got blue eyes and black hair  
(has got)

For possession, *have* and *have got* are **the same**

I've got a cold and a high temperature



### *Have got in questions*

- Have you got the time?
- Has she got a car?

### *Have got in negatives*

- *I haven't got a car*
- *He hasn't got a job*

# Unit 5

## I was/you were

### The simple past

**Present: am/is → past: was**

**Present: are → past: were**

Positive	Negative	Question
<b>I was</b> <b>You were</b> <b>He was</b> <b>She was</b> <b>We were</b> <b>They were</b>	<b>I wasn't (n't = not)</b> <b>You weren't</b> <b>He wasn't</b> <b>She wasn't</b> <b>We weren't</b> <b>They weren't</b>	<b>Was I?</b> <b>Were you?</b> <b>Was he?</b> <b>Was she?</b> <b>Were we?</b> <b>Were they?</b>

- *Yesterday, I was sick*
- *She lived in London when she was young*
- *Were you on time for the meeting?*
- *No, I wasn't – I was five minutes late*



# Unit 6

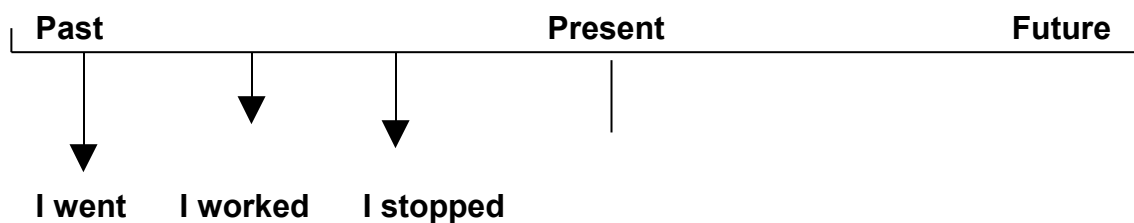
## – I

# did/worked/went

## Past simple

They watch television (present simple)

Yesterday, they watch**ed** television (past simple)



English verbs can be divided into two groups – regular and irregular. In the past simple, regular verbs end in *-ed* ; they do not change according to the subject:

- *I worked*
- *You worked*
- *He worked*
- *She worked*
- *We worked*
- *They worked*



## Irregular Verbs

These verbs are called irregular because they do not end in 'ed' like regular verbs. You must learn these verbs by heart.

Examples of irregular verbs:

- Begin → began
- Break → broke
- Buy → bought
- Come → came
- Do → did
- Drink → drank
- Eat → ate
- Find → found
- Get → got
- Give → gave
- Go → went
- Have → had
- Know → knew
- Leave → left
- Make → made
- Pay → paid
- Put → put
- Read → read (pronounced 'red')
- Ring → rang
- Say → said
- Think → thought

you will find a list of irregular verbs here:

<http://anglais-facile.com/irrverb.html>

## Negative and Questions

Use the auxiliary *did* for questions and negatives in the past:

<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Question</u>
I went	<b>I didn't go</b>	did you go?
I worked	<b>I didn't work</b>	did you work?
I had	<b>I didn't have</b>	did you have?

## Ago

We use ago for things in the past.

- *Giovanni moved to Rome in 1999*
- *Giovanni moved to Rome 9 years ago*
- *Did you meet The Queen?*
- *Yes, but that was a long time ago*

# Unit 7

## I was doing

### Past progressive



4:00 today: they **are** watching television



4:00 yesterday: they **were** jogging

#### Positive

I was doing  
You were doing  
He/she/it was doing  
We were doing  
They were doing

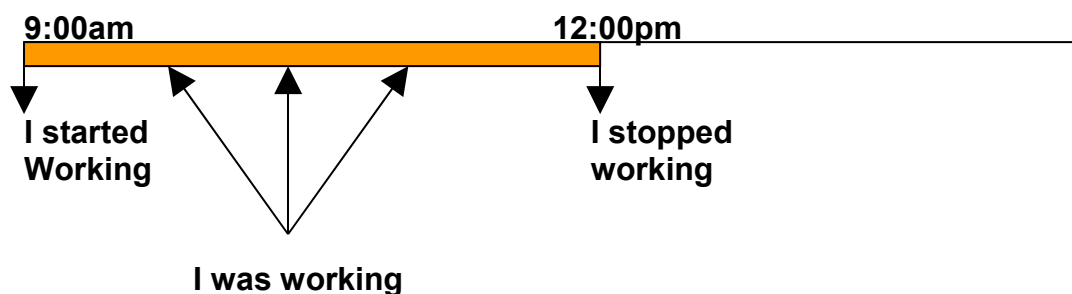
#### Negative

I wasn't doing  
You weren't doing  
He/she/it wasn't doing  
We weren't doing  
They weren't doing

#### Question

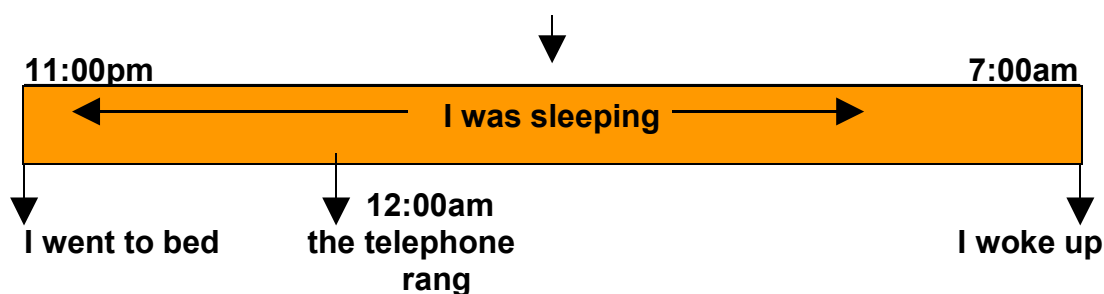
was I doing ?  
were You doing ?  
was He/she/it doing ?  
were We doing ?  
were They doing ?

## Timelines



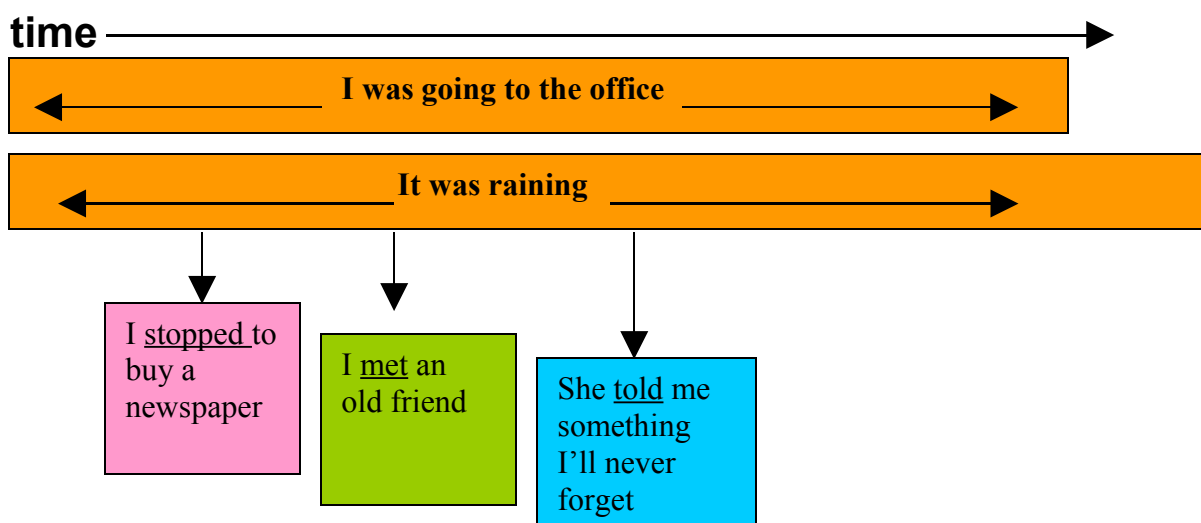
We use the past progressive when we are more interested in the action itself than the time it started or stopped.

Compare the past simple with the past progressive:



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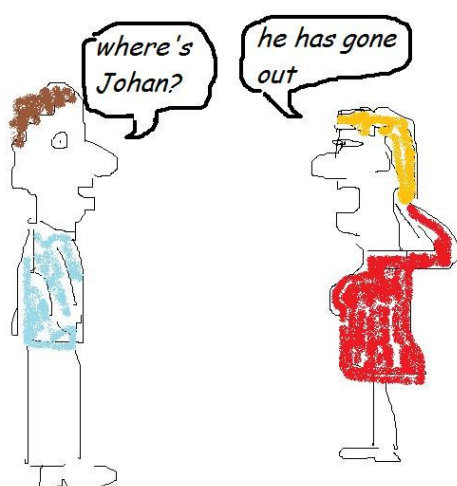
*I was sleeping when the telephone rang*



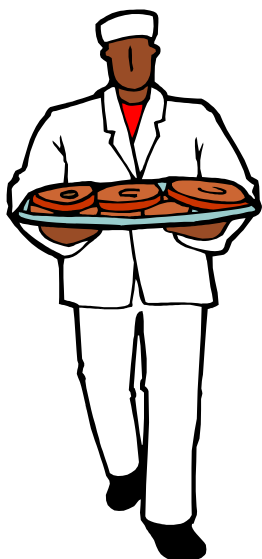
# Unit 8

## I have done

### Present Perfect



*Johan has gone out* = Johan is not here NOW



The cook has made some pizzas.  
The pizzas are ready NOW

The present perfect is used to show the **present result** of something that has happened.

Present perfect: auxiliary *have* + past participle (gone/done/been etc)

Compare the present perfect with the simple past:

- *Yesterday, I lost my keys. I found them this morning.*
- *I've lost my keys (I can't find my keys now)*
- *I bought this book last week, but I haven't read it.*

Positive

Negative

Question

I have done  
You have done  
He/she/it has  
done  
We have done  
They have done

I haven't done  
You haven't done  
He/she/it hasn't  
done  
We haven't done  
They haven't done

have I done ?  
have you done ?  
has he/she/it done ?  
have we done ?  
have they done ?

We can use the present perfect with *already, just, yet*:

- *I don't want to watch this film, I've already seen it*
- *Are you hungry? – No, I've just eaten*
- *I'm waiting for Sean, he hasn't arrived yet*



## ***How long have you...?***

Ivan moved to London in 2002. He lives in London now.

How long **has** Ivan **lived** in London?

- Ivan **has lived** in London for five years



This is Juan.

Juan is married to Jeanne

They **have been** married since 1999

Juan's best friend is Ian.

Juan **has known** Ian for ten years

Juan likes playing tennis

He **has played** tennis since he was a child

Juan works for Macroloft corporation.

He **has worked** for Macroloft for five years

Juan is learning Spanish (*present progressive*)

He **has been learning** Spanish for six months (*present perfect progressive*)

## Have you ever...?

Have you ever been to Italy ?

Yes, I have

Have you ever been to China ?

No, I haven't. I've never been to China

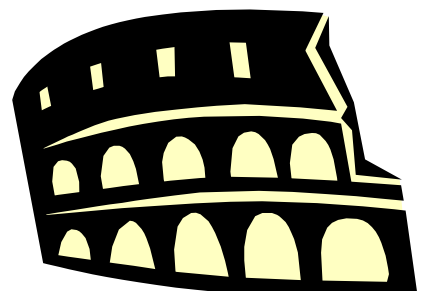
We can use the present perfect to talk about our experiences in life. If you want to know when something happened, use the simple past.

- **Have** you ever **played** poker?
- **Yes I have.**
- **When did** you **play** poker?
- **I played** when **I was** on holiday in Las Vegas

## Been

When we say 'have you ever been to Italy?' *been* is the past participle of the verb *to go*. *Been* then, is like a return trip.

I went —————> to Italy  
I came back <———— from Italy  
=  
*I've been to Italy (at sometime in my life)*





# For and Since

Compare these sentences:

- *I've lived in New York for ten years*
- *I've lived in New York since 1998*

Since is used for a specific time:

- *I've had this car since August*
- *I've known Jean since 1980*
- *I've had this headache since this morning*

For is used for a duration of time

- *I've had this car for six months*
- *I've known Jean for 27 years*
- *I've had this headache for several hours*



# Unit 9

## is done/was done

The passive voice.

People make cars in Birmingham (active)

Cars are made in Birmingham (passive)

We are not interested in *who* made the cars (people, somebody, the workers etc). We are only interested in which city they **are made**.

This is the passive voice:

To be:

am/is/are

was were

etc

+ past participle

done  
made  
washed  
built

Note:

The passive voice is NOT a tense, it does not relate to time. You can change the time by changing the verb 'to be'.

- The house **was damaged** in the storm
- Many people **have been taken** prisoner
- Five people **were killed** in the accident
- My car **is being repaired** today
- More energy **will be imported** from Russia in the future

# Unit 10

## used to



A few years ago, I lived in a big city



Today, I live in the countryside. I **used to live** in a big city.

**Used to + verb (infinitive) → something I did in the past *but don't do today*.**

- *I stopped smoking last year. I used to smoke twenty cigarettes a day.*
- *I used to like her a lot, but then she changed. I don't like her very much now.*
- *Before we had children, we used to travel a lot, but now we don't travel any more.*
- *You play the piano, don't you? – I used to, but I don't have much time these days.*

# Unit 11

## get used to

In Europe, people drive on the right. In England, people drive on the left.

When I came to England for the first time, it was difficult to **get used to driving** on the left.

Get used to + verb (-ing) Something that was difficult at first, but becomes normal with time or practice.

- *When you go to live in a foreign country, it takes time to **get used to living** there.*

## be used to

If you **have got used to doing** something, you can say that you **are used to doing** it

- *My job was hard at the beginning, but I'm used to it now*
- *I'm used to getting up early, but I didn't like it when I started*
- *France is very different from England, but I'm used to living here now*

# Unit 12

## I will do

### Future 1



I have a shower every day. This morning I had a shower. Tomorrow, I **will have** a shower.



### Questions

Will	I you he she it we they	go? say? do? be? ..etc.
------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

## **Will** is used for the future:

- *Tomorrow, I will be in Manchester on business*
- *Don't call tonight, I won't be at home*
- *It will be a hard match, but I'm sure we'll win*

## **Will** often shows we are not sure

- *I think it will rain this afternoon*
- *I don't know what to do – maybe I'll ask Jan about it*

## **Will** can mean a spontaneous decision

- *The phone's ringing – I'll answer it*  
*If you don't have a pen I'll lend you one*

## **Shall**

*Shall* is the same as *will* when used with *I* and *we*:

- *I shall be late / I will be late*
- *We shall buy some souvenirs / we will buy some souvenirs*

□ This is not an absolute rule as the following examples show:



- ✓ *You shall go to the ball, Cinderella*
- ✓ *You shall be taken and hanged by your neck until you are dead*
- ✓ *She shall have music wherever she goes*

# Unit 13

## going to

### Planned/certain future (2)



Tonight there is a football match on television. I like football.

Hi Jane, do you have plans for tonight ?



Hi Jeanne, I'm going to watch the football match on television.

Past

Present

Future

I decide  
to do  
something

"I'm going  
to do it"

I do it

<p><b>I am</b>  <b>You are</b>  <b>She is</b>  <b>We are</b>  <b>They are</b></p>	<p><b>(not) going to</b></p>	<p><b>do</b>  <b>walk</b>  <b>go</b>  <b>make</b>  <b>etc...</b></p>
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If you have planned something for the future, you can say *'I'm going to...'*

- *I'm going to cook Indian food tonight*
- *I'm going to talk to Ian about his attitude*



We often use the present progressive to talk about future events:

- What are you doing tonight?
- I'm playing football



# Unit 14

## I had done

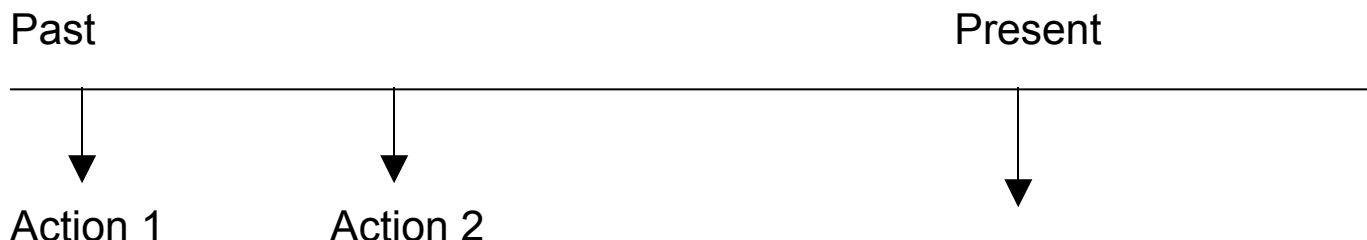
### Past Progressive



My train left at 8:00  
I was late, I arrived at 8:10

When I arrived at the station, my train **had left**

Past perfect = *had* + past participle



The past progressive is used to show that action 1 happened *before* action 2.

- I **didn't go** to the meeting because it **had been cancelled**  
Action 2 (simple past)                      Action 1 (past perfect)
- The streets were wet, so I **knew** it **had been raining**

# Unit 15

## a/some

Nouns can be either *countable* or *uncountable*. We cannot make plurals with uncountable nouns. We use 'some' before uncountable nouns.

Countable	Uncountable
Chairs, tables, sofas Euros, dollars, pounds Jobs, professions Clouds, temperatures, winds Loaves, baguettes Articles, reports, stories	furniture money work weather bread news



- An apple, an orange, a banana, a pear=
- Some fruit

A dollar



Some money

# Unit 16

## some/any



Siobhan has **some** money

Yann doesn't have **any** money



We usually use *some* in positive sentences, and *any* in negative sentences and questions.

John: I have **some** friends in Chicago

Ian: Really, do you have **any** friends in Chicago, Sean?

Sean: I haven't got **any** friends.

It is different when we **offer** something:

✓ *Would you like **some** tea?*

# Unit 17

## much/many/a lot



A lot of luggage / a lot of bags



Not much luggage / not many bags

We use *much* with uncountable nouns, in negative sentences and questions

- ✓ How much money have you got ?
- ✓ -I don't have much time

We use *many* with plural nouns

- ✓ Did you see many people ?
- ✓ I don't have many CD's
- ✓ I've been to many countries

*A lot of* can be used everywhere !

- ✓ I have a lot of money
- ✓ I don't have a lot of friends
- ✓ Do you have a lot of furniture ?
- ✓ I've got a lot of ideas

# Unit 18

## can/could

Can is used to express **ability**:

- ✓ *I can play the guitar*
- ✓ *Joan can swim very well*
- ✓ *Ivan hasn't got a car because he can't drive*
- ✓ *Can you cook?*



We also use can for **permission** (giving and asking for)

- ✓ *Can I sit here? Yes, you can*
- ✓ *It's OK, you can go home now*

When asking for things, it's more **polite** to use *could*:

- ✓ *Could you open the window?*
- ✓ *Could you give me your name, please?*

*Could* is also the past of *can*. We use it to talk about things we were able to before:

- ✓ *I could skate very well when I was young*
- ✓ *Jane could walk before she was one year old*

# Unit 19

## must/have to

### Obligation



We use *must* when we believe something is necessary:

- *It's a great book, you must read it*
- *I must call my parents tonight*
- *You must come over for dinner*

We use *have to* when we are obliged to do something, even if we don't want to do it.

- *I have to get up early for work tomorrow*
- *I have to complete my tax return before Friday*
- *Do I have to?*

### Prohibition

When something is not permitted, we use *mustn't*:

- *You mustn't smoke here, it's forbidden*
- *It's a secret, you mustn't tell anyone*





## Don't have to

*Don't have to* is **not** the same as *mustn't*

Is it allowed?

**YES**

You can go

**Permission**

**NO**

You mustn't go

**Prohibition**

Is it necessary?

**YES**

You must go  
You have to go

**Obligation**

**NO**

You **DON'T HAVE TO**  
go

**No Obligation**

# Unit 20

## big/small/beautiful

### adjectives

In English, the adjective is before the noun:

- ✓ *An **interesting** book*
- ✓ *A **difficult** project*
- ✓ *He's got **blue** eyes and **brown** hair*
- ✓ *I just love **Indian** food*
- ✓ *This **lovely** red dress is not expensive*



Adjectives always remain the same, they do not change according to the subject:

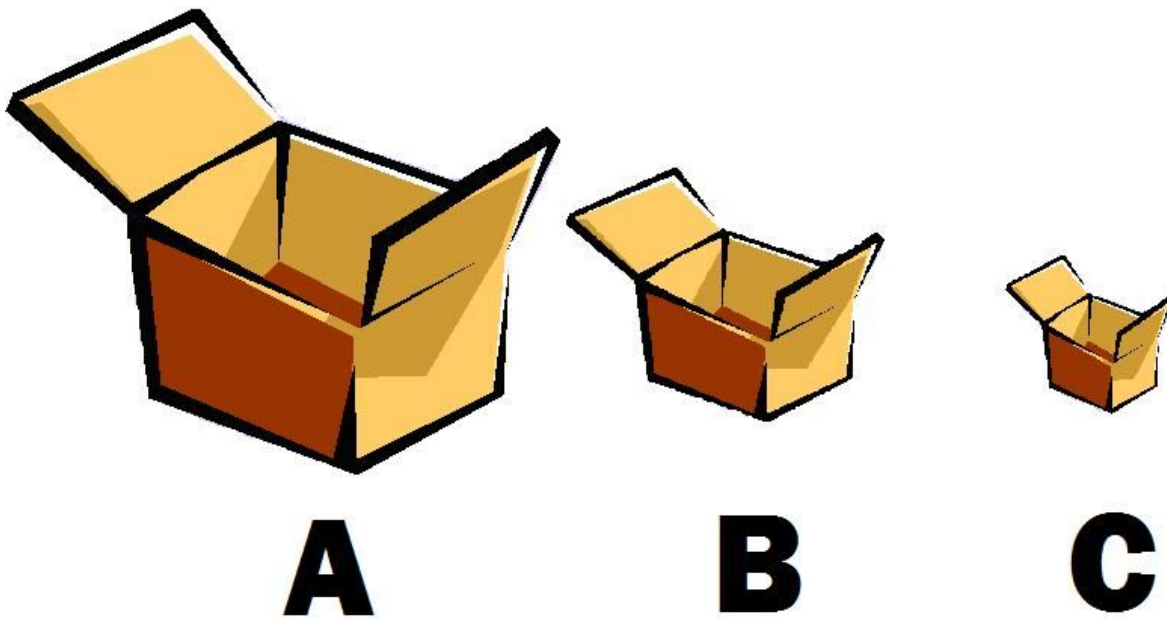
- *A **tall** woman*
- *A **tall** man*
- *Some **tall** people*



# Unit 21

## big/bigger/biggest

comparatives and superlatives



**Bigger than/ Smaller than**

- Box A is **bigger than** box B and box C
- Box B is **smaller than** box A, but bigger than box C
- Box C is **smaller than** box A and B

**The biggest/The smallest**

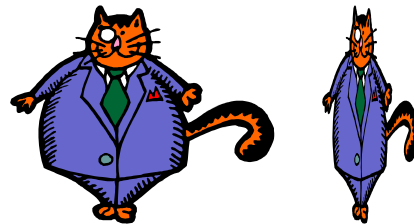
- Box A is **the biggest**. = it's bigger than **all** the others.
- Box C is **the smallest**. = it's smaller than **all** the others.

With small adjectives, we add **-er** to make comparatives:

- *small – smaller*
- *large – larger*
- *quick – quicker*
- *slow – slower*

We add a consonant to adjectives that have one consonant at the end:

- *big – bigger*
- *thin – thinner*
- *fat – fatter*



Adjectives that end in **-y** change to **i**:

- *funny – funnier*
- *happy – happier*
- *easy – easier*

Long adjectives are different. We cannot add **-er**, instead we use **more** before the adjective:

- *A Ferrari is more expensive than a BMW*
- *Korean films are more interesting than American ones*
- *Paris is more beautiful than London*



## Superlatives

Small adjectives take *the + -est* to make superlatives:

- *The tallest mountain in the world is Everest.*
- *The longest river in the world is the Amazon.*
- *The richest man in the world was Bill Gates.*

We put *the most* before long adjectives:

- *The most beautiful woman in the world is probably Monica Bellucci.*
- *The most difficult thing about English is the pronunciation.*
- *The most expensive city in the world is Tokyo.*



There are three exceptions:

**good → better → the best**

**bad → worse → the worst**

**far → further → the furthest**

- *The weather is better today than it was yesterday.*
- *After the war, the situation became worse than before.*
- *Sydney is further than Kuala Lumpur.*

# Unit 22

## you should



We use *should* when something is a good idea; it is a good thing to do. To be polite, you can say, *I think you should...*

- ✓ *I think you shouldn't eat so much.*
- ✓ *I think you should talk to her about it.*
- ✓ *I think you should reconsider our offer.*
- ✓ *I don't think he should attend the conference.*

### Ought to

*Ought to* is the same as *should*, but generally used only in positive sentences:

- ✓ *I think you ought to eat less.*
- ✓ *Perhaps you ought to talk to her about it.*
- ✓ *You ought to think about reconsidering.*

## Expectation and probability

We can also use *should* and *ought to* to talk about something we *expect* will happen, or something that is *likely* to happen:

- *Where's Giovanni? He should be here by now.*
- *My train is late, but I should arrive around 10pmg.*
- *I've studied hard, so I ought to pass the exam.*



# Unit 23

## I/me/my/mine

**She** told **her** the whole story.



Subject		Object	
I	<i>I like Jane</i>	Me	<i>Jane likes me</i>
You	<i>You like Jane</i>	You	<i>Jane likes you</i>
He	<i>He likes Jane</i>	Him	<i>Jane likes him</i>
She	<i>She likes Jane</i>	Her	<i>Jane likes her</i>
We	<i>We like Jane</i>	Us	<i>Jane likes us</i>
They	<i>They like Jane</i>	Them	<i>Jane likes them</i>

- *Those are nice trousers. I like **them** very much.*
- *I don't need this bag. You can have **it**.*
- *Answer the phone, it can't be for **me**.*
- ***We**'re going to the beach, do you want to come with **us**?*

# Possession



**This is my girlfriend. She's mine!  
I'm her boyfriend. I'm hers!**

<b>I</b>	<b>Me</b>	<b>My</b>	<b>Mine</b>
<b>You</b>	<b>You</b>	<b>Your</b>	<b>Yours</b>
<b>He</b>	<b>Him</b>	<b>His</b>	<b>His</b>
<b>She</b>	<b>Her</b>	<b>Her</b>	<b>Hers</b>
<b>We</b>	<b>Us</b>	<b>Our</b>	<b>Ours</b>
<b>They</b>	<b>Them</b>	<b>Their</b>	<b>Theirs</b>



- ***This is my book. It's mine!***
- ***Our car didn't start, so I took yours***
- ***No, that's not our luggage, ours is over there***
- ***Their dog is bigger than his***
- ***Her bag is more expensive than mine***

# Unit 24

## questions



### **People** who?

Who switched off the television? – I did, the film was boring.

Who did you see at the party? – I saw lots of interesting people.

Who are going with? – I'm going with Johan.

### **Things** what?

What's that? – It's my new computer.

What are you doing tonight? – I'm playing tennis.

What did you do last night? – I played tennis.



## **Places** where?

Where did you go on holiday? – We went to St.jean de Luz.

Where is Iain? – He's at home in bed.

## **Time** when?

When did you last go on holiday? – In 1999.

When is your birthday? – On the eleventh of June

## **Reason** why?

Why did you do that? – Because it was fun.

Why do you like American films? Because they have a lot of action.

Why is London so expensive? Because everyone wants to live there.

## **Way, Manner of doing something** How?

How do you turn on this computer? – There's a red button, press it.

How can I get to Manchester from here? – Take a train from Kings Cross Station

# Unit 25

## how much/many

We use *how + adjective* to ask some questions:

- *How old are you? – I'm 18 years old*
- *How tall are you? – I'm 1 metre 75*
- *How big is the box? – It's pretty big!*

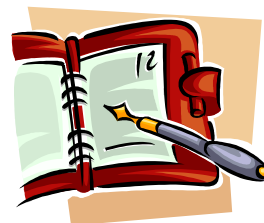
Note that we usually use the 'superior' adjective to ask questions:

Noun	Adjectives	Question
Age	old/young	How old?
Weight	heavy/light	How heavy?
Quantity	much/a little	How much?
Quantity	many/a few	How many?
Length	Long/short	How long?
Time	long/short	How long?
Distance	far/near	How far?
Height	high/low	How high?
Height	tall/short	How tall?
Width	wide/narrow	How wide?
Depth	deep/shallow	How deep?
Size	big/small	How big?

# Unit 26

## on Friday/in June

### Time prepositions



<u>On</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>At</u>
Monday, Tuesday The weekend The first The second	January The morning The afternoon The evening The week Spring	The weekend Night 10 O'clock

- I've got an appointment on Friday at 3 O'clock
- I always feel sleepy in the afternoon
- In the summer there are too many people on the beach
- I always watch the news in the evening
- I was born on the eighteenth of April



# Unit 27

## What would you do?

### Conditionals

If you **won** the lottery, what would you do?  
- I'd (=I would) buy a Ferrari!



This situation is **not very probable**, it is a *hypothetical situation*.

We use the verb for the condition (the part with 'if') in the past:

If you went to America...

If he didn't come...

If you could see her ...

And the result is 'would' + infinitive verb:

*... would you find a job?*

*... would he get into trouble?*

*... what would you say?*

We can suggest things or give advice to someone by saying:

*If I were you, I would...*



We can use conditionals in the past to show that it was possible for something to happen, but didn't.

Perhaps we **regret** that it didn't happen!

- You didn't win the lottery?
- No.
- What **would you have done** **if you had won** the lottery?
- **If I had won** the lottery, **I would have bought** a Ferrari!

<b>Condition</b>	<b>result</b>
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<i>If + had + past participle</i>	<i>→ would have + past participle</i>
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If you had seen him	→ would you have spoken to him?
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If I had known	→ I wouldn't have come.
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If I had been there	→ I would have told her.
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## Internet links:

For more lessons and explanations, visit:

<http://cours-anglais-gratuit.blogspot.com>