

Success English Foundations

Elementary • Building Confident, Everyday English

01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08
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16 units to take you from simple A1 sentences to confident, connected English — comparatives, past and future tenses, conditionals, reported speech and much more, with clear explanations, real-life examples and short exercises throughout.

Success Coaching and Education Consultancy

01 Talking About Yourself

/ 16

Likes, dislikes & free time

GRAMMAR FOCUS

At A2 level you can talk about yourself in much more detail — not just who you are, but what you enjoy doing. Verbs like like, love, enjoy and don't mind are followed by the -ing form of the verb, not the infinitive. Hate and can't stand work the same way.

- like / love / enjoy / don't mind + verb-ing
- hate / can't stand + verb-ing
- Asking about free time: What do you do in your free time?

EXAMPLES

"I love reading books in the evening."

"She enjoys playing the guitar."

"We don't mind waiting a little."

"He hates getting up early."

"I can't stand loud music."

"What do you do in your free time?"

"My favourite hobby is cooking."

"They like going to the cinema at weekends."

MINI VOCABULARY

hobby — an activity you do for fun in your free time

enjoy — to get pleasure from something

weekend — Saturday and Sunday

guitar — a musical instrument with strings

relax — to rest and stop worrying

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "I ____ (love) swimming in the sea."
2. Correct the mistake: "She hate cooking."
3. Ask a friend what they do in their free time.

DID YOU KNOW?

After verbs like like, love, hate and enjoy, we almost always use the -ing form in English, not the infinitive with 'to'.

02 Comparatives & Superlatives

/ 16

Comparing people & things

GRAMMAR FOCUS

We use comparatives to compare two things and superlatives to compare three or more. Short adjectives usually add -er / -est, while longer adjectives use more / most. A few common adjectives are irregular.

- Short adjectives: big → bigger → the biggest
- Long adjectives: expensive → more expensive → the most expensive
- Irregular: good → better → best, bad → worse → worst

EXAMPLES

"My brother is taller than me."

"This is the most beautiful city I've ever seen."

"Trains are faster than buses."

"That film was worse than the book."

"She is the best student in the class."

"This phone is more expensive than that one."

"Winter is colder than autumn."

"He is the youngest person in our team."

MINI VOCABULARY

expensive — costing a lot of money

beautiful — very attractive to look at

fast — moving quickly

young — not old

team — a group of people working together

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Write the comparative of "big".
2. Write the superlative of "good".
3. Compare two cities you know, using an adjective of your choice.

DID YOU KNOW?

One-syllable adjectives usually take -er / -est, while adjectives with three or more syllables normally use more / most.

03 Countable & Uncountable Nouns

/ 16

some, any, much, many, a little, a few

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Countable nouns can be counted and have a plural form (a book, two books). Uncountable nouns have no plural and cannot be counted directly (water, money, information). The words we use with them are different too.

- Countable: many, a few, a/an, numbers
- Uncountable: much, a little, some
- some in positive sentences, any in negatives and questions

EXAMPLES

"I don't have much time today."

"There are many people in the park."

"Can I have some water, please?"

"We don't have any milk left."

"How much money do you have?"

"How many brothers do you have?"

"There's a little sugar in the cupboard."

"I need a few more minutes."

MINI VOCABULARY

sugar — a sweet substance used in food and drinks

cupboard — a piece of furniture with shelves and doors

information — facts or details about something

a little — a small amount (uncountable)

a few — a small number (countable)

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Choose: "How ____ apples do you want?"
(much / many)
2. Is "water" countable or uncountable?
3. Complete: "There isn't ____ coffee left."
(much / many)

DID YOU KNOW?

We use 'a little' with uncountable nouns and 'a few' with countable nouns — both mean 'a small amount', but they can't be mixed up.

04 Past Continuous

/ 16

Actions in progress in the past

GRAMMAR FOCUS

The Past Continuous (was/were + verb-ing) describes an action that was in progress at a specific moment in the past. It is often used together with the Past Simple to show that one action interrupted another.

- Form: was/were + verb-ing
- Use: an action in progress at a past moment
- Often used with 'while' + Past Simple

EXAMPLES

"I was sleeping when the phone rang."

"They were watching a film at 8 o'clock."

"What were you doing yesterday evening?"

"She wasn't listening to the teacher."

"While I was walking home, it started to rain."

"We were having dinner when he arrived."

"Was it raining this morning?"

"He was working late last night."

MINI VOCABULARY

interrupt — to stop something while it is happening

arrive — to reach a place

meanwhile — at the same time

suddenly — quickly and unexpectedly

rang — past simple of 'ring'

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "I ____ (read) a book when you called."
2. Make negative: "She was cooking."
3. Ask a question about what someone was doing at 9 p.m. yesterday.

DID YOU KNOW?

We often use Past Continuous with Past Simple in the same sentence to show that a shorter action interrupted a longer one.

05 Present Perfect

/ 16

ever, never, just, already, yet

GRAMMAR FOCUS

The Present Perfect (have/has + past participle) connects the past to the present. We use it for life experiences and for recent events when the exact time isn't important, often together with *ever*, *never*, *just*, *already* and *yet*.

- Form: have/has + past participle
- Use: experiences — Have you ever...?
- Time words: *ever*, *never*, *just*, *already*, *yet*

EXAMPLES

"I have visited Paris three times."

"Have you ever tried sushi?"

"She has never been to Japan."

"We have just finished our homework."

"He hasn't arrived yet."

"They have already seen that film."

"I've lost my keys!"

"Has she called you today?"

MINI VOCABULARY

experience — something that has happened to you

already — before now, sooner than expected

yet — until now (used in negatives/questions)

journey — a trip from one place to another

achieve — to succeed in doing something

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "I ____ (never / be) to Australia."
2. Add 'yet' to: "She hasn't finished her homework."
3. Ask a friend a question with "Have you ever...?"

DID YOU KNOW?

We use Present Perfect, not Past Simple, when we don't say exactly when something happened — the connection to now is what matters.

06 Talking About the Future

/ 16

going to vs will

GRAMMAR FOCUS

We use **going to** for plans and intentions that we decided before speaking, and **will** for predictions, promises, offers and decisions made at the moment of speaking.

- **going to + verb:** plans already decided
- **will + verb:** predictions, promises, offers
- **won't = will not**

EXAMPLES

"I'm going to visit my grandparents this weekend."

"I think it will rain tomorrow."

"I'll help you with your bags."

"She's going to start a new job next month."

"Will you come to the party?"

"They're not going to travel this summer."

"I promise I will call you tonight."

"The shop will probably close early today."

MINI VOCABULARY

plan — something you have decided to do

prediction — a guess about the future

promise — to say you will definitely do something

decision — a choice you make

probably — likely, but not certain

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete (plan already decided): "I ____ (go) to the dentist tomorrow."
2. Complete (offer at the moment): "It's heavy — I ____ (help) you."
3. Make a prediction about next year using 'will'.

DID YOU KNOW?

We use '**going to**' for decisions made before we speak, and '**will**' for decisions we make right at the moment of speaking.

07 Obligation & Advice

/ 16

must, have to, mustn't, should

GRAMMAR FOCUS

We use **must** and **have to** to talk about obligation, **mustn't** to talk about things that are forbidden, and **should** / **shouldn't** to give advice or opinions.

- **must** / **have to**: it's necessary
- **mustn't**: it's forbidden
- **should** / **shouldn't**: advice, opinions

EXAMPLES

"You must wear a seatbelt in the car."

"I have to finish this report today."

"You mustn't smoke in here."

"You should drink more water."

"She shouldn't work so much."

"Do we have to book a table?"

"Students must arrive on time."

"You don't have to bring anything, it's free."

MINI VOCABULARY

obligation — something you must do

forbidden — not allowed

seatbelt — a strap that keeps you safe in a car

advice — an opinion about what someone should do

necessary — needed, required

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Choose: "You ____ touch that, it's dangerous."
(must / mustn't)
2. Give advice to a tired friend using 'should'.
3. Complete: "We ____ (have to) pay to enter the museum."

DID YOU KNOW?

'Must' often shows the speaker's own opinion, while 'have to' often shows a rule that comes from somewhere else.

08 Adverbs of Degree

/ 16

too, enough, very, quite

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Adverbs of degree tell us how strong a quality is. Too + adjective shows there is a problem, adjective + enough shows something is sufficient, and very / quite simply add emphasis.

- too + adjective = more than necessary (a problem)
- adjective + enough = sufficient
- very / quite + adjective = degree of intensity

EXAMPLES

"This coffee is too hot to drink."

"She isn't old enough to drive."

"He is very tired after work."

"The film was quite interesting."

"This bag is too heavy for me."

"Is the water warm enough for a swim?"

"I'm not strong enough to lift this."

"It's too expensive for our budget."

MINI VOCABULARY

budget — the amount of money you plan to spend

sufficient — enough for what is needed

warm — having a comfortable temperature

heavy — weighing a lot

strong — having physical power

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "This box is ____ heavy ____ carry." (too...to)
2. Complete: "She isn't tall ____ to reach the shelf."
3. Use 'quite' in a sentence about today's weather.

DID YOU KNOW?

'Too' has a negative meaning and shows a problem, while 'very' is neutral and just adds extra emphasis.

09 Linking Words

/ 16

and, but, because, so, although

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Linking words connect ideas and make our English sound more natural. And adds information, but shows contrast, because gives a reason, so gives a result, and although introduces a contrast within one sentence.

- and: adds information / but: shows contrast
- because: gives a reason / so: gives a result
- although: contrast inside one sentence

EXAMPLES

"I like tea and coffee."

"She's tired but happy."

"We stayed home because it was raining."

"He was late, so he missed the bus."

"Although it was cold, we went for a walk."

"I want to travel, but I don't have much money."

"She passed the exam because she studied hard."

"It was expensive, so we didn't buy it."

MINI VOCABULARY

reason — why something happens

result — what happens because of something else

contrast — a clear difference between two things

connect — to join two things together

although — despite the fact that

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Choose: "I stayed in bed ____ I was ill."
(because / but)
2. Join with 'although': "It was raining. We went out."
3. Complete: "He worked hard, ____ he passed the test."

DID YOU KNOW?

'Although' and 'but' both show contrast, but 'although' starts a clause and can also begin the whole sentence.

10 Directions & Movement

/ 16

into, past, along, across, through

GRAMMAR FOCUS

At A2, you can give and understand more detailed directions. Prepositions of movement describe how something moves, and there are fixed phrases we use when explaining the way to a place.

- Movement: go into, come out of, walk through, cross
- Directions: turn left/right, go straight on, at the corner
- Asking the way: How do I get to...?

EXAMPLES

"Walk along this street to the station."

"Turn left at the traffic lights."

"Go straight on and it's on your right."

"She ran across the road."

"He walked through the park."

"The cat jumped out of the box."

"We drove past the school."

"Excuse me, how do I get to the museum?"

MINI VOCABULARY

traffic lights — signals that control traffic with red, yellow and green

corner — the point where two streets meet

straight on — continuing in the same direction

cross — to go from one side to the other

station — a place where trains or buses stop

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "Go ____ this road, then turn right."
(along / into)
2. Give directions from your home to the nearest shop.
3. Choose: "She walked ____ the door." (through / past)

DID YOU KNOW?

In British English we usually say 'turn left/right', not 'turn to the left/right'.

11 Comparisons & Suggestions

/ 16

as...as, Let's, Why don't we...?

GRAMMAR FOCUS

We use **as + adjective + as** to say two things are equal, and **not as...as** to say one is lower in degree. To suggest an activity, we can use **Let's**, **Why don't we...?** or **How about + verb-ing?**

- **as + adjective + as** = equal comparison
- **not as...as** = a lower degree
- **Suggestions:** **Let's** / **Why don't we...?** / **How about + -ing?**

EXAMPLES

"This bag is as heavy as that one."

"She isn't as tall as her sister."

"Let's go to the cinema tonight."

"Why don't we try that new restaurant?"

"How about going for a walk?"

"My English isn't as good as yours."

"This exercise is as easy as the last one."

"Shall we meet at six?"

MINI VOCABULARY

equal — the same in size, amount or level

suggestion — an idea you offer to someone

exercise — a task done for practice

restaurant — a place where you pay to eat a meal

easy — not difficult

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "He is ____ tall ____ his father."
(as...as)
2. Make a suggestion for the weekend with 'Why don't we...?'
3. Complete: "This test isn't ____ difficult ____ the last one."

DID YOU KNOW?

'Shall we...?' is a very common and polite way to make a suggestion, especially in British English.

12 Question Tags

/ 16

isn't it?, don't you? & polite questions

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Question tags are short questions added to the end of a sentence to check information. A positive statement takes a negative tag, and a negative statement takes a positive tag. We can also make questions more polite by making them indirect.

- Positive statement + negative tag: You're tired, aren't you?
- Negative statement + positive tag: She isn't here, is she?
- Polite indirect questions: Could you tell me...?

EXAMPLES

"It's a beautiful day, isn't it?"

"You like coffee, don't you?"

"She can't swim, can she?"

"They live here, don't they?"

"Could you tell me what time it is?"

"Do you know where the nearest bank is?"

"He isn't coming, is he?"

"We've met before, haven't we?"

MINI VOCABULARY

check — to make sure something is true

polite — showing good manners

statement — a sentence that gives information

nearest — closest in distance

confirm — to say that something is true

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Add a tag: "You are from Spain, ____?"
2. Add a tag: "She doesn't like fish, ____?"
3. Turn into a polite question: "Where is the toilet?" → "Could you tell me...?"

DID YOU KNOW?

We usually use question tags to check something we already believe, not because we really don't know the answer.

13 First Conditional

/ 16

If + present simple, will + verb

GRAMMAR FOCUS

The First Conditional talks about real, possible situations in the future. We use if + present simple in one part of the sentence, and will + base verb in the other. Unless means 'if not'.

- If + present simple, ... will + verb
- Used for real, possible future situations
- unless = if...not

EXAMPLES

"If it rains, we will stay at home."

"If you study hard, you'll pass the exam."

"She won't come if she's busy."

"If I have time, I'll call you later."

"Unless you hurry, you'll miss the bus."

"What will you do if it snows?"

"If we save money, we'll go on holiday."

"He'll be happy if you visit him."

MINI VOCABULARY

possible — able to happen

hurry — to move or act quickly

unless — except if; if...not

save — to keep money instead of spending it

condition — something that must happen first

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "If it ____ (be) sunny, we ____ (go) to the beach."
2. Complete: "Unless you ____ (leave) now, you'll be late."
3. Write your own First Conditional sentence about tomorrow.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 'if' clause can come first or second in the sentence, but we only use a comma when 'if' comes first.

14 Past Habits

/ 16

used to + verb

GRAMMAR FOCUS

We use **used to + base verb** to talk about past habits and states that are no longer true. There is no present form — **used to** only exists in the past.

- **used to + verb**: repeated past actions or states
- **didn't use to + verb**: negative form
- **Did you use to...?** for questions

EXAMPLES

"I used to live in a small village."

"She used to play the piano every day."

"They didn't use to like vegetables."

"Did you use to walk to school?"

"We used to visit our grandparents every summer."

"He didn't use to wear glasses."

"I used to be afraid of the dark."

"Did she use to work here?"

MINI VOCABULARY

habit — something you do regularly

village — a small town in the countryside

grandparents — the parents of your parents

glasses — worn over the eyes to help you see

afraid — feeling fear about something

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Complete: "I ____ (used to) hate coffee, but now I love it."
2. Make negative: "He used to smoke."
3. Ask a question with 'used to' about someone's childhood.

DID YOU KNOW?

'Used to' only talks about the past — there is no present form like 'I use to'; for the present we simply use the present simple.

15 Reported Speech

/ 16

Reporting what people say

GRAMMAR FOCUS

When we report what someone said, the tense usually moves one step back into the past (present simple → past simple, will → would), and pronouns often change too.

- "I am tired," she said. → She said (that) she was tired.
- Present Simple → Past Simple, will → would
- Pronouns and time words often change too

EXAMPLES

"He said he was hungry."

"She told me she liked chocolate."

"They said they would come later."

"I said I was learning English."

"She said she worked in London."

"He said he was watching TV."

"They told me they were happy."

"She said she would call tomorrow."

MINI VOCABULARY

report — to tell someone what another person said

statement — something someone says or writes

said — past simple of 'say'

told — past simple of 'tell'

pronoun — a word like I, you, he, she, it, we, they

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Report: "I am busy," he said. → He said ____.
2. Report: "We will help you," they said. → They said ____.
3. Report: "She works in a bank," she said. → She said ____.

DID YOU KNOW?

'Say' is usually followed directly by 'that', while 'tell' always needs a person: tell me, tell him, tell her.

16 Everyday A2 Vocabulary

/ 16

Travel, health & work — bringing it all together

GRAMMAR FOCUS

In this final unit, you'll combine grammar from Units 1–15 with everyday vocabulary about travel, health and work. Real conversations mix several tenses and structures at once — that's what fluent English sounds like.

- Travel: book a ticket, check in, board a flight
- Health: symptoms, see a doctor, feel better
- Work: apply for a job, an interview, colleagues

EXAMPLES

"I've booked my flight, and I'm going to pack tonight."

"If I feel worse tomorrow, I'll see a doctor."

"She used to work in a shop, but now she has an office job."

"We were travelling when the storm started."

"He has already had two interviews this month."

"You should rest if you have a headache."

"Although it was expensive, the hotel was worth it."

"My colleagues are friendlier than I expected."

MINI VOCABULARY

colleague — a person you work with

symptom — a sign that shows you are ill

interview — a formal meeting to ask about a job

board — to get on a plane, train or ship

worth it — good enough to justify the time or money

✓ CHECK YOURSELF

1. Describe a recent trip using the Present Perfect.
2. Give health advice to a friend with a cold, using 'should'.
3. Talk about your job or studies, combining Present Simple and Present Continuous.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ready for B1! At A2 you can now combine several tenses and structures naturally in one conversation — that's where real fluency begins.



Well Done!

You've completed **Success English Foundations — A2**.

Sixteen units, one confident new level of English. Here's everything you've mastered:

01 Talking About Yourself	02 Comparatives & Superlatives	03 Countable & Uncountable Nouns	04 Past Continuous
05 Present Perfect	06 Talking About the Future	07 Obligation & Advice	08 Adverbs of Degree
09 Linking Words	10 Directions & Movement	11 Comparisons & Suggestions	12 Question Tags
13 First Conditional	14 Past Habits	15 Reported Speech	16 Everyday A2 Vocabulary

WHAT'S NEXT?

This eBook is designed only as a free guide to give direction to your lessons. For personalised coaching and to go further with your English — towards confident B1 conversations — book your free appointment today.

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