

Nouns

Nouns are words that give a name to people, places or things, though they can also refer to ideas and other abstract objects.

Plural count nouns

We usually add -s to make a plural noun:

<i>book</i>	>	<i>books</i>
<i>school</i>	>	<i>schools</i>
<i>friend</i>	>	<i>friends</i>

We add -es to nouns ending in -s, -ch, -sh, -ss, -x and -o:

<i>class</i>	>	<i>classes</i>
<i>watch</i>	>	<i>watches</i>
<i>gas</i>	>	<i>gases</i>
<i>wish</i>	>	<i>wishes</i>

<i>box</i>	>	<i>boxes</i>
<i>potato</i>	>	<i>potatoes</i>

When a noun ends in a consonant and -y, we make the plural with -ies:

<i>lady</i>	>	<i>ladies</i>
<i>country</i>	>	<i>countries</i>
<i>party</i>	>	<i>parties</i>

If a noun ends in a vowel and -y, we simply add -s:

<i>boy</i>	>	<i>boys</i>
<i>day</i>	>	<i>days</i>
<i>play</i>	>	<i>plays</i>

Some common nouns have **irregular plurals**:

<i>man</i>	>	<i>men</i>
<i>woman</i>	>	<i>women</i>
<i>child</i>	>	<i>children</i>
<i>person</i>	>	<i>people</i>
<i>foot</i>	>	<i>feet</i>

Plural count nouns do not have a **general determiner** when they refer to people or things **in general**:

Computers are very expensive.

Do you sell ***old books***?

But they may have a **specific determiner**:

Those computers are very expensive.

The books in that shop are very expensive.

Her sisters live there.

or a **quantifier**:

<i>some</i> new books	<i>a few</i> teachers	<i>lots of</i> good ideas
------------------------------	------------------------------	----------------------------------

or a **numeral**:

two new books

three wishes

Uncount nouns

Some nouns in English are **uncount** nouns. We do **not** use uncount nouns in the plural and we do **not** use them with the indefinite article *a/an*:

*We ate a lot of **food**. (NOT ~~foods~~)*

*We bought some new **furniture**. (NOT ~~furnitures~~)*

*That's useful **information**. (NOT ~~a useful information~~)*

We can use some quantifiers with uncount nouns:

He gave me some useful advice.

They gave us a lot of information.

Uncount nouns often refer to:

Substances: *food, water, wine, salt, bread, iron*

Human feelings or qualities: *anger, cruelty, happiness, honesty, pride*

Activities: *help, sleep, travel, work*

Abstract ideas: *beauty, death, fun, life*

Common uncount nouns

Some common nouns in English like *information* are **uncount nouns** even though they have **plurals in other languages**:

<i>advice</i>	<i>accommodation</i>	<i>baggage</i>	<i>equipment</i>
<i>furniture</i>	<i>homework</i>	<i>knowledge</i>	<i>luggage</i>
<i>machinery</i>	<i>money</i>	<i>news</i>	<i>traffic</i>

*Let me give you **some** advice.*

***How much** luggage have you got?*

If we want to make these things countable, we use **expressions** like:

<i>a piece of ...</i>	<i>a bit of ...</i>	<i>an item of ...</i>
<i>pieces of ...</i>	<i>bits of ...</i>	<i>items of ...</i>

*Let me give you **a piece of** advice.*

*That's **a useful piece of** equipment.*

*We bought **a few bits of** furniture for the new apartment.*

*She had six separate **items of** luggage.*

However, *accommodation*, *money* and *traffic* cannot be made countable in this way. We need to use other expressions:

*I've lived in three **flats/apartments**.* (NOT ~~bits of accommodation~~)

*Smith received three large **sums of money**.* (NOT ~~pieces of money~~)

*We got stuck in two **traffic jams**.* (NOT ~~pieces of traffic~~)

Common problems with count and uncount nouns

Substances as count or uncount nouns

Substances are usually **uncount** nouns:

*Would you like some **cheese**?*

***Coffee** keeps me awake at night.*

***Wine** makes me sleepy.*

but they can **also** be used as **count** nouns:

*I'd like **a coffee**, please.* = I'd like a [cup of] coffee.

*May I have **a white wine**?* = May I have a [glass of] white wine?

*They sell **a lot of coffees**.* = They sell a lot of [different kinds of] coffee.

*I prefer white **wines** to red.* = I prefer [different kinds of] white wine to red.

*They had **over twenty cheeses**.* = They had over twenty [types of] cheese.

*This is **an excellent soft cheese**.* = This [kind of] soft cheese is excellent.

Nouns with both a count and an uncount form

Some nouns have **both** a **count** and an **uncount** form. Their meanings are closely related:

*George had **hopes** of promotion.*
*We should always have **hope**.*

*There's **a danger** of avalanches on the mountain.*
*Some people enjoy **danger**.*

Level: intermediate

Nouns with two meanings

Some nouns have **two meanings**, one count and the other uncount:

*Can I have **a glass** of water?*
*I cut myself on some **glass**.*

*Is English **a difficult language**?*
*Linguistics is the study of **language**.*

*The Times is **an excellent paper**.*
*It's made of **paper**.*

Other nouns like this are:

<i>business</i>	<i>industry</i>	<i>property</i>	<i>wood</i>
<i>power</i>	<i>time</i>	<i>work</i>	<i>hair</i>

Uncount nouns that end in –s

Some uncount nouns end in –s. They look like plural count nouns, but they are not.

Nouns like this generally refer to:

Subjects of study:	<i>mathematics, physics, economics, etc.</i>
---------------------------	--

Activities:	<i>gymnastics, athletics, etc.</i>
Games:	<i>cards, darts, billiards, etc.</i>
Diseases:	<i>mumps, measles, rabies, etc.</i>

*Economics **is** a very difficult subject.*

*Billiards **is** easier than pool or snooker.*

Group nouns

Some nouns refer to groups of people, animals or things:

<i>army</i>	<i>audience</i>	<i>committee</i>	<i>company</i>
<i>crew</i>	<i>enemy</i>	<i>family</i>	<i>flock</i>
<i>gang</i>	<i>government</i>	<i>group</i>	<i>herd</i>
<i>public</i>	<i>regiment</i>	<i>staff</i>	<i>team</i>

We can use these **group nouns** either as **singular nouns** or as **plural nouns**:

***My family is** very dear to me.*

*I have a **large family**. **They are** very dear to me. = The members of my family ...*

*The government **is** very unpopular.*

*The government **are** always changing **their** minds.*

Sometimes we think of the **group** as a **single thing**:

*The audience always **enjoys** the show.*

*The group **consists** of two men and three women.*

Sometimes we think of the **group** as **several individuals**:

*The audience clapped **their** hands.*

*The largest group **are** the boys.*

The names of many **organisations** and **teams** are also group nouns, but they are **usually plural** in spoken English:

*Barcelona **are** winning 2–0.*

*The United Oil Company **are** putting prices up by 12 per cent.*

and *the police* is **always plural**:

*The police **are** offering a £5,000 reward.*

Things with two parts

A few plural nouns refer to things that have two parts. They have no singular form. These are always things we wear:

<i>glasses/spectacles</i>	<i>trousers</i>	<i>shorts</i>
<i>pyjamas</i>	<i>pants</i>	<i>boxers</i>
<i>tights</i>	<i>jeans</i>	<i>knickers</i>

*Those **trousers** are too long.*

or implements:

<i>pliers</i>	<i>scissors</i>	<i>binoculars</i>	<i>pincers</i>
---------------	-----------------	-------------------	----------------

These **binoculars** were very expensive.

To make it clear we are talking about one of these items, we use **a pair of ...**:

*I need **a new pair of** spectacles.*

*I've bought **a pair of** blue jeans.*

If we want to talk about more than one, we use **pairs of ...**:

*We've got **three pairs of** scissors, but they are all blunt.*

*I always carry **two pairs of** binoculars.*

Proper nouns

Proper nouns

Names of people, places and organisations are called **proper nouns**. We spell proper nouns with a **capital letter**:

<i>Muhammad Ali</i>	<i>Birmingham</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Oxford University</i>	<i>the United Nations</i>
---------------------	-------------------	--------------	--------------------------	---------------------------

We use capital letters for **festivals**:

<i>Christmas</i>	<i>Deepavali</i>	<i>Easter</i>	<i>Ramadan</i>	<i>Thanksgiving</i>
------------------	------------------	---------------	----------------	---------------------

We use capital letters for people's **titles**:

*I was talking to **Doctor** Wilson recently.*

*Everything depends on **President** Obama.*

When we give the names of **books, films, plays and paintings**, we use capital letters for the **nouns, adjectives and verbs** in the name:

I have been reading The Old Man and the Sea.

Beatrix Potter wrote The Tale of Peter Rabbit.

You can see the Mona Lisa in the Louvre.

Sometimes we use a person's name to refer to **something they have created**:

Recently a **Van Gogh** was sold for 15 million dollars.

We were listening to **Mozart**.

I'm reading **an Agatha Christie**.

Noun phrases

Often a noun phrase is just a noun or a pronoun:

People like to have money.

I am tired.

Premodifiers

But **noun phrases** can also include:

- determiners: **Those** houses are very expensive.
- quantifiers: I've lived in **a lot of** houses.
- numbers: My brother owns **two** houses.
- adjectives: I love **old** houses.

These parts of the noun phrase are called **premodifiers** because they go **before the noun**.

We use premodifiers in this order:

determiners and quantifiers	>	numbers	>	adjectives + NOUNS
-----------------------------	---	---------	---	--------------------

For example:

Determiners and quantifiers	Numbers	Adjectives	NOUNS
The	six		children
Our		young	children

	Six	young	children
These	six	young	children
Some		young	children
All those	six	young	children
Their many		young	children

Postmodifiers

Other parts of a noun phrase go **after the noun**. These are called **postmodifiers**.

Postmodifiers can be:

- prepositional phrases:

*a man **with a gun***
*the boy **in the blue shirt***
*the house **on the corner***

- **–ing phrases** :

*the man **standing over there***
*the boy **talking to Angela***

- **relative clauses** :

*the man **we met yesterday***
*the house **that Jack built***
*the woman **who discovered radium***
*an eight-year-old boy **who attempted to rob a sweet shop***

- **that clauses**. These are very common after **nouns like idea, fact, belief, suggestion**:

*He's still very fit, in spite of **the fact that he's over eighty**.*
*She got **the idea that people didn't like her**.*
*There was **a suggestion that the children should be sent home**.*

- **to infinitives** :

*I've got no decent shoes **to wear**.*

These are very common after **indefinite pronouns and adverbs**:

*You should take **something** to read.*

*I need **somewhere** to sleep.*

There may be **more than one** postmodifier:

*an eight-year old boy **with a gun** who tried to rob a sweet shop
that girl **over there** in a green dress drinking a Coke*

Continuous aspects

We use **continuous aspect**:

- for something happening **before and after a specific time**:

*He's **getting** on the train. (before and after the moment of speaking)*

*It was a quarter past ten. We **were watching** the news on television.*

- for something happening **before and after another action**:

*Mother **will be cooking** the dinner when we get home.*

*We **were waiting** for the bus when it started to rain.*

- for something **continuing for some time**:

*Everybody **will be waiting** for us.*

*They **had been working** hard all day.*

- for something **happening again and again**:

*They've **been doing** that every day this week.*

*The children **were always shouting**.*

*He **will be practising** the piano every night.*

- for something **temporary**:

*We **are renting** an apartment until our house is ready.*

*He **was working** in a garage during the vacation.*

- for something **new**:

*We have moved from Birmingham. We're **living** in Manchester now.*

*He had left university and **was working** in his father's business.*

- to describe something **changing** or **developing**:

Everything **has been getting** more difficult.
He **was growing** more bad-tempered every day.

We can use **continuous aspect**:

- with **perfect aspect**:

How long **have** you **been** sitting there?
I don't know how long she **had been** learning Spanish.

- with **modal verbs**:

Your friends **will be** looking for you.
They **might be** playing tennis.

- with both **modal verbs** and **perfect aspect**:

You **should have been** driving more carefully.
Soon we **will have been** living here for 25 years.

We do **not** normally use the continuous aspect with **stative verbs**. We use the **simple** instead:

I don't understand you. (NOT ~~am not understanding~~)
When I got home, I really needed a shower. (NOT ~~was needing~~)
I've always liked John. (NOT ~~been liking~~)

Intermediate Vocabulary

FOOTBALL / SOCCER

What is the most popular sport in the world?

Football... also known as soccer in some countries.

Football is used in British English.

Soccer is used in American English.

Football is basically a game where two teams of eleven players each try to end a game with the most goals. The game is on a rectangular **pitch** or **field** and none of the players can use their hands to touch the ball except for one goalkeeper in each team.

A game of football lasts 90 minutes. This is divided into two halves of 45 minutes each. There is a 15-minute break between the first half and the second half.

FOOTBALL - SOCCER

POSITIONS ON THE PITCH



This tactic is a classic 4-4-2 tactic. The positions may be different in other tactics though the names remain the same.

Forwards

Their main role is to score goals. Sometimes they are called **strikers**.

Midfielders

Players in the middle that help defend and also try to get the ball to the forwards.

Defenders

Their main role is to stop the other team from scoring goals.

Goalkeeper

The only player that can use his/her hands in the penalty area. They try to stop goals.

www.grammar.cl

www.woodwardenglish.com

www.vocabulary.cl

People on the pitch / field

Pitch is used in British English

Field is used in American English

A football team consists of 11 **players** on the field at the same time. Two teams play against each other and there is a **referee** to make sure everyone follows the rules of the game.

Let's look at some of the people involved in a game of football:

Goalkeeper: There is only one goalkeeper on the field for each team. Their main role is to defend the goal and stop the other team from scoring goals. They can use their hands while they are in the goal area. An informal word for goalkeeper is **goalie**.

The three main positions on the pitch are as a defender near their own goal, in the midfield, which is the centre section, and the forward position where they try to score goals.

Defender: these players play near their goalkeeper to help defend their goal.

Midfielder: a player who plays between the forwards and the defenders. They sometimes help defend, sometimes they help attack, though they spend most of the time in the middle of the pitch.

Forward: an attacking player in a team. When a forward has the main role of scoring goals, he or she can be called a **striker**.

Substitute: this is a player that does not start on the field with the other players. They sit on the bench until it is time to replace a player on the field that is tired or not performing well. Sometimes substitutes are used as a part of a change in tactics.

Manager: the person in charge of a football team. They are responsible for selecting the team of players for a match and the tactics they should use on the pitch.

The following are responsible for running the game:

Referee: The person responsible for making sure all players follow the rules. The referee uses a whistle to get the attention of the players and to signify a change in the flow of the game such as a foul or the end of the half or match.

Linesman: a person who helps the referee. There are two linesmen, one on each side of the pitch. The general job of a linesman is to let the referee know when the ball has gone out (has crossed the side line or goal line), when a player is offside, or if a player commits an offense. They use a flag to indicate the situation to the referee. Another word for linesman is **referee's assistant**.



Parts of a football pitch

The playing surface for soccer/football with its markings to show the area of play is called a **soccer field** or **soccer pitch** (or **football field** or **football pitch**). It consists of the following:

Bench: the area where substitute players sit and wait to be asked to enter the game.

Centre circle: this is the circle that is 10 yards (9.15 metres) from the centre mark of the pitch. When a team kick-offs at the start of a half or after a goal, players from the opposing team cannot be inside that circle until the ball has been played.

Centre spot: This is the mark in the exact middle of the centre circle where kick-off takes place.

Corner: one of the four corners of the pitch. A corner flag is placed here and it is where corner kicks are taken.

Crossbar: the horizontal bar of the goal. It must be 8 feet (2.44 metres) above the ground.

Goal: The goal consists of two vertical goal posts and a horizontal crossbar. There is normally a net attached to these to help confirm whether the ball has entered between the posts or not.

Goal line: the two short boundary lines at opposite ends of the pitch. The goal posts are placed on the goal line.

Goal post: A goal consists of two vertical goal posts that are 8 yards (7.32 metres) apart.

Halfway line: The marked line that goes across the pitch exactly halfway between the two goal lines.

Net: Nets are attached to the goal posts and crossbar and are placed behind the goal to make it easier to know when the ball enters the goal.

Penalty area: This is also known as the penalty box. This is the marked area near each goal in which the goalkeeper can use his hands to touch the ball. If a foul happens inside the penalty box, it becomes a penalty instead of a free kick.

Penalty spot: (also know as penalty mark) a white mark in the penalty box from which penalties are taken. This spot or mark is 12 yards (11 metres) from the goal line.

Stands: this is where the fans / supporters sit in the stadium around the pitch

Touchline: The touchlines are the marked lines going along the longest part of the pitch. A ball must completely cross the touchline to be out of play. If any part of the ball is still on or above the touchline, the ball is still in play. When a ball is completely out of play, a throw-in is giving to the opposite team of the last person who touched the ball.

Things that happen in a football game

Bicycle kick: when a player kicks the ball backwards over his own head to try and score a goal.

Clearance: a defensive kick that is intended to remove the ball out of danger from the goal area.

Corner kick: a free kick taken from one of the corners of the pitch. A corner kick is given when the ball touches a defending team's player before going over the goal line (outside of the goal).

Dive: when a player deliberately falls over when tackled, mostly when they aren't even touched. Some unscrupulous players do this act in order to get a free kick or a penalty.

Draw / Tie: when the game finishes with both teams having the same amount of goals scored.

Equalizer: a goal that is scored that brings the game to where both teams now have the same number of goals.

Extra time: Two extra 15-minute periods played when the main 90-minute game ends in a draw and a winner is needed in the competition.

Free kick: A player who is fouled by an opponent is given a free kick. If this happens inside the penalty box / goal area, then instead of a free kick, it becomes a penalty.

Foul: an action that is not permitted in the game as it is against the rules. A foul gives the other team a free kick.

Goal: when the ball passes the line between the two goal posts and under the crossbar, it is a goal. The ball must wholly cross the goal line between the goal posts before a goal is scored.

Half time: the short 15-minute break after the first half and before the second half starts.

Handball: when a player touches the ball with his/her hand or arm. The other team receives a free kick or a penalty if this happens inside the goal area.

Hat trick: when a player has scored three goals in the same match.

Header: a shot at goal that involves using the head to guide the direction of the ball.

Injury time: Extra minutes added to the end of a half in order to compensate lost playing time due to injury. This is sometimes called **stoppage time**.

Kick-off: the first kick of the game which signifies the start of the match. It is usually written as **kickoff** (one word) in American English.

Offside: when a player receives a pass and they are closer to their opponent's goal than one of the opposite team's players excluding the goalkeeper.

Own goal: when a player accidentally helps the ball go into their own goal.

Penalty: a free kick from the penalty spot. This kick is made by one player against the goalkeeper of the opposite team.

Penalty shootout: This happens when the game is tied (both teams have the same number of goals) after extra time in a competition and a winner needs to be decided. Each team takes turns with a penalty kick. The team that gets the most goals after their five shots, wins. If both teams have the same amount of goals after their five shots each, they each have another penalty shot each until there is a winner.

Possession: the total amount of time a team is able to keep the ball and prevent the opposition from touching it.

Red card: If a player gets a red card, they must leave the pitch immediately and cannot play again during the same match. A player is given a red card for dangerous play on the field or if they get two yellow cards in the same match.

Shot: when the ball is kicked or headed in the direction of the opponent's goal in an attempt to score a goal.

Throw-in: When a ball goes completely across the touchline to be out of play, a throw-in is given to the opposite team of the last person who touched the ball. This is the only time a player can use their hands to touch the ball, in this case only to throw the ball back into play.

VAR: This is short for Video Assistant Referees. This system is where the referee can replay the video of events that happened on the field. This can help the referee make decisions such as whether to award a goal or not, give a penalty, or give a player a red card.

Wall: when some players from one team stand together in a line to create a barrier or “wall” between the ball and the goal when there is a free kick.

Yellow card: A yellow card is given as punishment for a serious foul in the game. When the same player receives two yellow cards in a match, then it becomes a red card and that player must leave the game immediately.

Verbs used in Football

To concede (a goal): when a team receives a goal against them.

To cross: to pass the ball from one side of the pitch to the opposite side or into the goal area.

To dribble: to move the ball along with your feet as you go up the field.

To head: to use your head to make the ball go in a certain direction.

To kick: to strike the ball with your foot.

To mark: to guard an opposing player to try and stop them from receiving the ball from their teammate or to make it difficult for that player to use the ball how they want.

To pass: when a player kicks (or heads) the ball to another player on their same team

To score (a goal): to get a goal

To shoot: when the ball is kicked in the direction of the opponent’s goal in an attempt to score a goal.

To substitute: (to sub) to replace one player on the field with another player that was on the bench.

To tackle: to challenge and try and take the ball from an opposing player.

To volley: to kick a moving ball before it hits the ground.

What do you wear in Football?

Teams get changed in the **locker room**, which is sometimes called the **changing room**. But what does a football player wear?

Armband: the captain wears an armband to let the referee know that he/she is the captain.

Boots: special leather shoes, in this case used for playing football.

Gloves: The goalkeeper wears gloves on his hands to make it easier to stop the ball.

Kit: the football kit refers to the whole uniform that a player wears.

Shin pads / Shin guards: protective plastic coverings that protect a player’s shins from getting hurt should they get kicked. The shin is the lower front part of the leg.

Shirt / Jersey: The top part of a team uniform that a player wears. It has a number on the back with the player’s name above that number. The goalkeeper wears a different colour from all the other players on the pitch.

Shorts: short trousers that only reach to the knees or thighs.

Socks: a piece of clothing that covers the foot. In football, socks are long and go up to the knee.

Studs: small projections fixed to the base of footwear that help the player to not slip over on the pitch. Sometimes studs are called **sprigs**.

The soccer ball / The football

The ball is round and made of leather or similar material. The ball used in professional football leagues and in the FIFA World Cup is called a size 5 ball. It has a specific size (circumference: 68-70 cm / 27-28 in) and weighs (410-450gr / 14-16 oz).

The FIFA World Cup

The FIFA World Cup is an international football/soccer competition held every 4 years between the 32 qualifying nations. The winning country becomes the world champion.

In 2014 the competition was held in Brazil and Germany was the champion.

In 2018 the competition was held in Russia and France was the champion.

In 2022 the competition will be held in Qatar and the champion will be...

HALLOWEEN



Halloween (All Hallows Eve) is a holiday celebrated on the night of October 31st. Traditional activities include **trick-or-treating**, Halloween festivals, **bonfires**, **costume parties**, visiting "**haunted houses**", and watching **scary movies**.

Halloween originated from a Pagan festival celebrated among the Celts of Ireland and Great Britain to indicate the end of the harvest season. The festival was a time used by the Gaelic culture to take stock of their supplies and to kill livestock in preparation for the long

winter months. The Gaelic's believed that on October 31 the boundaries between the living and the dead overlapped and that the dead would come back to life to cause problems like sickness or to destroy the harvest.

Nowadays, the mention of Halloween is more associated children (and adults) getting dressed up in costumes. While it has always been a popular holiday in United States, Ireland, Scotland and Canada, it is now celebrated in many other countries around the world.

Halloween Color Associations

There are many colors and symbols that are associated with Halloween. Whilst black and orange are the traditional colors of Halloween, other colors are also now popular. Some of the more popular ones are:

- **Black** = death, night, witches, black cats, bats, vampires
- **Orange** = pumpkins, jack o'lanterns, Autumn, the turning leaves, fire
- **Purple** = night, the supernatural, mysticism
- **Green** = goblins, monsters, zombies, aliens, Frankenstein
- **White** = ghosts, mummies, a full moon
- **Red** = blood, fire, demons

Traditional Symbols of Halloween

The most traditional symbol of Halloween is the **pumpkin** which is usually **carved** out and lit with a **candle** and placed on the home's **doorstep** after dark. This carved pumpkin is sometimes called a **Jack-o'-lantern**. In Ireland and Scotland a **turnip** was normally carved instead of a pumpkin.



Some things associated with Halloween are:

- bats
- black cats
- crows

- goblins
- haunted houses
- horror movies
- owls
- spiders
- spider webs

Common Halloween costumes include:

- devils - evil creatures
- Frankenstein - made of different body parts
- ghosts - translucent spirit
- ghouls - similar to zombies
- mummies - wrapped in bandages
- skeletons - only bones
- vampires - have fangs and like to drink blood
- werewolves - turn into a wolf with a full moon
- witches - have black hats and clothes
- wizards - have magic wands
- zombies - the walking dead

Trick or Treat

Trick or treat is the term used for children being dressed in costumes and going from house to house asking for candy. The children usually knock on the neighbor's door and say:

- "Trick or Treat. Trick or Treat. Give me something good to eat!"

Trick is the supposed threat that something bad (or mischievous) will happen to the person if they do not receive a **treat** (a candy, sweets or something similar). Of course kids normally don't do anything bad. Parents often walk around the streets with their kids to make sure nothing bad happens.

Halloween Vocabulary Chart



Common Halloween Superstitions

When it's time for Halloween celebration, it is then that the people tend to become more superstitious. There are many **superstitions** and **myths** about Halloween and most of the people have a strong belief in them:

- Going in for dumb supper, meaning that nobody will talk while having supper, encourages the **spirits** of the dead to come to the table.

- It is believed that if an unmarried girl keeps a rosemary herb and a silver sixpence (coin) under her pillow on Halloween night, it is quite likely that on that very night, she would dream of her future husband.

- It is said that if you hear someone's footsteps behind you on Halloween night, you should not look back because it may be a dead person following you. And if you commit the mistake of looking back, it is likely that you might join the dead very soon.

- People believe that if on the Halloween night, a girl carrying a lamp in her hand goes to a spring of water, she will see the reflection of her life partner in the water.

- People have a superstition that if an unmarried girl carries a broken egg in a glass and takes it to a spring of water, she will be able to catch the glimpse of not just her future husband, by mixing some spring water in the glass, but also she can see the reflection of her future kids.

- There is the old saying that "**black cats are bad luck**". It was once believed that black cats were the devil, or consumed by evil spirits.

- People used to believe that Satan was a nut-gatherer. Nuts were also used as magic charms on the day of Halloween festival.

- If you put your clothes on inside out as well as outside walk backwards on Halloween night. At midnight you will see a **witch** in the sky flying on a broomstick. People used to believe witches were the devil, or that they were consumed by **evil**.

- There is also an old saying "if the flame on your candle goes out on Halloween celebration"; it gives you the meaning that you are with a **ghost**.

- If you ring a bell on Halloween it will **frighten** evil spirits away.

- Many people used to consider that owls would dive down to eat the souls of the dying on Halloween. They used to think if you pulled your pockets out, and left them hanging, they'd be safe.

- It has been said if a **bat** flies into your house on Halloween, it is a sign that **ghosts** or **spirits** are very near, and maybe they are in your home and let the bat in.

- People used to believe that if **bats** are out early on Halloween, and they fly around playfully, then good weather is to come.

- If a **bat** flies around your house three times on Halloween, death is very soon to come.

- To **ward off** evil spirits on Halloween, you can bury all the animal bones in your front yard, or even put a picture of an animal very close to your doorway.

- People used to believe you could walk around your house three times backward before sunset on Halloween, and that would take care of all evil.

- It could be the spirit of a dead loved one watching you if you see a **spider** on Halloween.

HEALTH PROBLEMS

The most common ways to ask about someone's health are:

- How do you feel (today)?
- How are you feeling?
- Is everything okay?

They will most likely respond:

- I'm fine.
- I feel sick.
- Not so good.
- Not very well.
- I don't feel well.
- I'm sick.

When you see (or hear) that they are not well, then you can ask:

- What's the matter?
- What's wrong?

If the person wants to say what is wrong, they may give the reason they feel that way:

- I have ... (+ health condition)
- I've got ... (+ health condition)
- **I have** a headache
- **I've got** a sore throat.

ENGLISH VOCABULARY


HOW DO YOU FEEL?

Woodward's
ENGLISH VOCABULARY

	+ I feel ...	-	
How are you? How are you today? How do you feel? How do you feel today?	fine good great fantastic	sick awful terrible miserable	I'm sick. I feel sick. Not so good. Not very well.



How do you feel?
What's the matter?
I'm sorry to hear that.



Not so good.
I have a headache.

When you hear (or see) that someone is not well, then you can ask:
What's the matter?
What's wrong?

And the person who is sick or has a health problem may respond:
I have ... (+ health problem)
I've got ... (+ health problem)
EXAMPLE: I have a sore throat.

www.grammar.cl www.woodwardenglish.com www.vocabulary.cl

ESL List of Health Problems

The following is a list of common health problems (ailments and illnesses) with the definition of each word or expression:

an allergy: a medical condition that causes you to react badly or feel sick when you eat or touch a particular substance.

asthma: a respiratory condition where spasms in the lungs cause difficulty in breathing. An asthmatic uses an inhaler to calm the spasms.

a backache: a prolonged pain in the back.

a broken leg: when a bone in the leg is broken. A broken leg is put in a cast to help immobilize the leg so that it heals quicker. Other parts of the body with bones can also be broken, for example a *broken arm*, a *broken wrist* etc.

cancer: a serious disease caused by an uncontrolled division of abnormal cells that kill normal body cells in a part of the body.

a cold: a common viral infection which causes mucus to run from the nose, gives a sore throat and often includes sneezing.

a cough: the act of expelling air from the lungs with a sudden sharp sound.

diarrhoea: (America English: **diarrhea**) an illness in which faeces are discharged from the bowels frequently and in a liquid form.

an earache: pain inside the ear.

a fever: an abnormally high body temperature, usually accompanied by shivering and a headache.

the flu: flu is the common name given for *influenza*. It is a contagious viral infection of the respiratory passages that causes fever and severe aching.

a headache: a continuous pain in the head.

heartburn: a form of indigestion felt as a burning sensation in the chest. It is caused by acid regurgitation into the esophagus.

(the) measles: an infectious viral disease causing fever and a red rash on the skin. It typically occurs in childhood.

a rash: a lot of small red spots on the skin that are usually itchy.

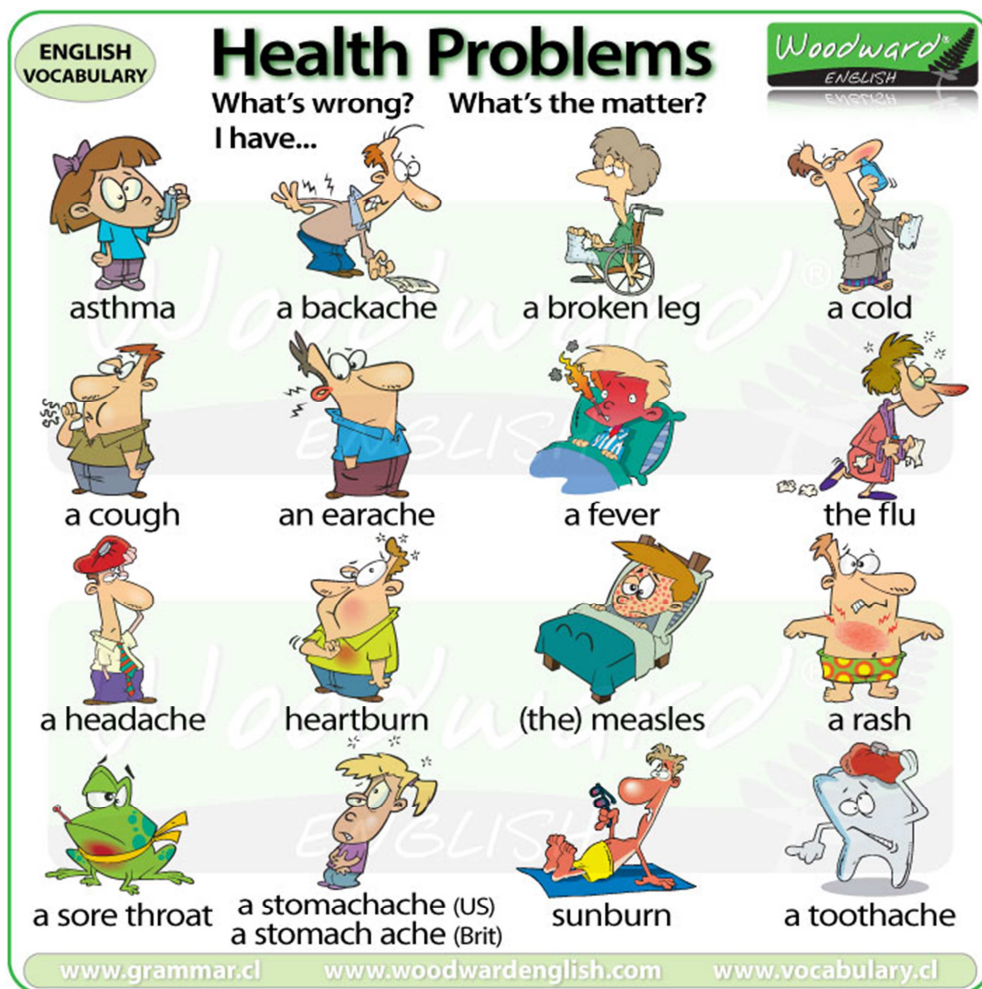
a sore throat: a condition of pain in the throat, typically caused by inflammation of it.

a sprain: an injury to a joint in your body, especially your wrist or ankle, caused by suddenly twisting it.

a stomachache (US) - stomach ache (Brit): The pain in a person's belly. Notice how the word can be spelled together or as two words, depending on the country.

sunburn: when the skin becomes red with inflammation as a result of overexposure to the ultraviolet rays of the sun.

a toothache: the pain in a tooth or teeth.



The difference between *sick* and *ill*

To most people, both *sick* and *ill* more or less mean the same thing, that you are not in a healthy condition.

Sick is less formal than *ill* and usually describes short-term ailments or diseases (like a cold or cough). *Sick* can also refer to feeling nauseous. In British English, *to be sick* can mean to *vomit*.

Ill is often for more serious health problems (like cancer or pneumonia) but can also be used for short-term ones.

Illness (noun) refers to a medical condition. *Sickness* (noun) refers to how you feel.

The difference between *ache* and *pain*

ACHE is a continuous or **prolonged** dull pain in a part of the body. It can often be a throbbing sensation that covers more than one point. You can sometimes try and ignore an ache.

PAIN is physical suffering or discomfort caused by illness or injury. It is usually a sharp sensation in a specific part of the body and hurts more than an ache.

HOTELS

When you arrive at a hotel, you must **check-in** at the **reception** or front desk. The check-in process can take awhile since the receptionist has to find your reservation, request payment for the room, and then inform you about the hotel's policies and procedures. You are also given a **key** to your room at this time.

Hotels often distinguish themselves by the services they offer. Fancy hotels often have a **concierge** or **porter** to help you with a variety of tasks. They can help you get a taxi, make reservations at restaurants or plays for you, and give you advice about the city. Often, this person is also in charge of the **bellboys**, who carry your **luggage** or **baggage** up to the room for you.

In smaller and cheaper hotels, the job of concierge is done by the receptionist and a **doorman**, who opens the hotel doors and car doors for you.

These are nice services, especially after you've been traveling, but they're not free. It is common courtesy **to tip** the concierge and bellboys each time they help you.

Other features that are generally found in hotels are a **lift** or **elevator** to take you up to the floor your room is on; a **lounge area** or lobby where you can wait if you arrive before the check-in time; and a **safe** where you can store valuables.

In your room, there may be a single or **double bed**, depending on how many people are staying there. There may even be two single beds, or **twin beds**. Also in the room are a desk, a dresser to store your clothes in, a nightstand with a lamp beside the bed, a television with cable, heating and air conditioning.

If you're lucky, there may even be a **mini-bar** in your room. This is a small refrigerator that has tiny bottles of alcohol, as well as snacks. But beware: these are not free. In fact, they typically cost two to three times as much as they do in a grocery store. But many people pay the exuberant price for the convenience of not having to leave the hotel.

Another convenience that hotels offer is **room service**. To order room service, you call down to the reception and ask for a food item listed on the hotel's menu. The food is then brought to your room for you to enjoy. Remember, this is another service that deserves a tip.

Many hotels also have restaurants attached where breakfast is served in the morning. A hotel breakfast can range from a **Continental buffet**, which consists of you helping yourself to food that has been laid out for you and other hotel **guests**. The Continental breakfast is not very elaborate and is often included in the price of the room. However, you can also order prepared food from the restaurant's menu.

At the proper **check-out** time, which is often early, you must vacate the room so that the **maids**, or cleaning staff, can clean the rooms and make the beds. If you don't leave on time, **charges** may apply and you will have to pay extra money. Fortunately, you can ask for a **wake-up call** from the front desk so you won't sleep through check-out.

To get to your next destination, you can take an **airport shuttle**, which will take you directly to the airport. If a hotel doesn't have its own shuttle, it can usually arrange for one to pick you up at the hotel.

HOTEL DIALOGUES

Below are some typical dialogues between a hotel receptionist at The Grand Woodward Hotel and a guest. Here you will find typical conversations that deal with making reservations, checking in and also checking out.

Making Reservations

Receptionist: Good morning. Welcome to The Grand Woodward Hotel.

Client: Hi, good morning. I'd like to make a reservation for the third weekend in September. Do you have any vacancies?

R: Yes sir, we have several rooms available for that particular weekend. And what is the exact date of your arrival?

C: The 24th.

R: How long will you be staying?

C: I'll be staying for two nights.

R: How many people is the reservation for?

C: There will be two of us.

R: And would you like a room with twin beds or a double bed?

C: A double bed, please.

R: Great. And would you prefer to have a room with a view of the ocean?

C: If that type of room is available, I would love to have an ocean view. What's the rate for the room?

R: Your room is five hundred and ninety dollars per night. Now what name will the reservation be listed under?

C: Charles Hannighan.

R: Could you spell your last name for me, please?

C: Sure. H-A-N-N-I-G-H-A-N

R: And is there a phone number where you can be contacted?

C: Yes, my cell phone number is 555-26386.

R: Great. Now I'll need your credit card information to reserve the room for you. What type of card is it?

C: Visa. The number is 987654321.

R: And what is the name of the cardholder?

C: Charles H. Hannighan.

R: Alright, Mr. Hannighan, your reservation has been made for the twenty-fourth of September for a room with a double bed and view of the ocean. Check-in is at 2 o'clock. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to call us.

C: Great, thank you so much.

R: My pleasure. We'll see you in September, Mr. Hannighan. Have a nice day.

Checking-In

Hotel: Good afternoon. Welcome to the Grand Woodward Hotel. How may I help you?

Guest: I have a reservation for today. It's under the name of Hannighan.

Hotel: Can you please spell that for me, sir?

Guest: Sure. H-A-N-N-I-G-H-A-N.

Hotel: Yes, Mr. Hannighan, we've reserved a double room for you with a view of the ocean for two nights. Is that correct?

Guest: Yes, it is.

Hotel: Excellent. We already have your credit card information on file. If you'll just sign the receipt along the bottom, please.

Guest: Whoa! Five hundred and ninety dollars a night!

Hotel: Yes, sir. We are a five star hotel after all.

Guest: Well, fine. I'm here on business anyway, so at least I'm staying on the company's dime. What's included in this cost anyway?

Hotel: A full Continental buffet every morning, free airport shuttle service, and use of the hotel's safe are all included.

Guest: So what's not included in the price?

Hotel: Well, you will find a mini-bar in your room. Use of it will be charged to your account.

Also, the hotel provides room service, at an additional charge of course.

Guest: Hmm. Ok, so what room am I in?

Hotel: Room 487. Here is your key. To get to your room, take the elevator on the right up to the fourth floor. Turn left once you exit the elevator and your room will be on the left hand side. A bellboy will bring your bags up shortly.

Guest: Great. Thanks.

Hotel: Should you have any questions or requests, please dial 'O' from your room. Also, there is internet available in the lobby 24 hours a day.

Guest: Ok, and what time is check-out?

Hotel: At midday, sir.

Guest: Ok, thanks.

Hotel: My pleasure, sir. Have a wonderful stay at the Grand Woodward Hotel.

Check-out / Getting to the airport

Hotel: Did you enjoy your stay with us?

Guest: Yes, very much so. However, I now need to get to the airport. I have a flight that leaves in about two hours, so what is the quickest way to get there?

Hotel: We do have a free airport shuttle service.

Guest: That sounds great, but will it get me to the airport on time?

Hotel: Yes, it should. The next shuttle leaves in 15 minutes, and it takes approximately 25 minutes to get to the airport.

Guest: Fantastic. I'll just wait in the lounge area. Will you please let me know when it will be leaving?

Hotel: Of course, sir. Oh, before you go would you be able to settle the mini-bar bill?

Guest: Oh yes certainly. How much will that be?

Hotel: Let's see. The bill comes to \$37.50. How would you like to pay for that?

Guest: I'll pay with my Visa thanks, but I'll need a receipt so I can charge it to my company.

Hotel: Absolutely. Here we are sir. If you like you can leave your bags with the porter and he can load them onto the shuttle for you when it arrives.

Guest: That would be great thank you.

Hotel: Would you like to sign the hotel guestbook too while you wait?

Guest: Sure, I had a really good stay here and I'll tell other people to come here.

Hotel: That's good to hear. Thank you again for staying at The Grand Woodward Hotel.

LADDER VS. STAIRS

Ladder vs. stepladder vs. stairs vs. steps

Ladder, stepladder, stairs and steps. What is the difference between these words?

In general, a **ladder** and a **stepladder** are pieces of equipment that are used for climbing up or climbing down something. They can be moved from one place to the next.

Stairs and **steps** are used for going from one level to another level. They are in a fixed position.

Let's look at each one in a little more detail:

LADDER

A **ladder** is a piece of equipment that has a series of steps (also called rungs) between two upright lengths of wood or metal. It needs to be leaned against a wall or other flat surface for support in order to use it. A ladder is portable which means it can be moved from one place to another location.

Originally most ladders were made of wood though now they are mostly made of aluminum as it is lighter.

Extension ladder is a ladder that can be extended in height.

STEPLADDER

A **stepladder** consists of two ladders joined together with a hinge at the top. It can support itself without needing to be leaned against something. It looks like an inverted V.

Stepladder is sometimes written as two words (step ladder).

What is the difference between a ladder and a stepladder?

In general a **ladder** needs to be supported against something. A **stepladder** doesn't need external support. It stands by itself.

STAIRS

Stairs are a set of steps built between two or more floors in a building. They are fixed in position and cannot be moved.

The row of posts on the side of stairs (with a wooden or metal top) is called a handrail or banister. You hold onto the **handrail** or **banister** as you go up or down the stairs so that you don't accidentally fall down them.

STEPS

Steps are a series of fixed individual steps outside of a building. There can be a small number of steps or a large number. Steps can be narrow or very wide and they are usually made of concrete or stone.

What is the difference between stairs and steps?

The main difference is that stairs are inside and steps are outside.

Bonus word: ESCALATOR.

An **escalator** is a mechanical device which has moving stairs that carry people between different floors in a large building. Escalators are common in shopping malls (or shopping centers) and department stores. Escalators are great in that people don't have to walk up or down stairs. The escalator slowly takes them from one floor to the next.

Summary Chart



