

Pronouns

Personal pronouns

We have both subject pronouns and object pronouns:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Object</u>
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I	me
---	----

you	you
-----	-----

he	him
----	-----

she	her
-----	-----

it	it
----	----

we	us
----	----

you	you
-----	-----

they	them
------	------

We use subject pronouns as the subject of a verb:

I like your dress.

You are late.

He is my friend.

It is raining.

She is on holiday.

We live in England.

They come from London.

Be careful!

English clauses always have a subject.

His father has just retired. > He was a teacher. (NOT Was a teacher.)

I'm waiting for my wife. > She is late. (NOT Is late.)

The imperative, which is used for orders, invitations and requests, is an exception:

Stop!

Go away.

Please come to dinner tomorrow.

Play it again, please.

If there is no other subject, we use it or there. We call this a dummy subject.

We use object pronouns as the object of a verb:

Can you help me, please?

I can see you.

She doesn't like him.

I saw her in town today.

We saw them in town yesterday, but they didn't see us.

and after prepositions:

She is waiting for me.

I'll get it for you.

Give it to him.

Why are you looking at her?

Don't take it from us.

I'll speak to them.

He, she and they

We use he/him to refer to men, and she/her to refer to women. When we are not sure if we are talking about a man or a woman, we use they/them:

This is Jack. He's my brother. I don't think you have met him.

This is Angela. She's my sister. Have you met her before?

You could go to a doctor. They might help you.

Talk to a friend. Ask them to help you.

You and they

We use you to talk about people in general, including the speaker and the hearer:

You can buy this book everywhere. = This book is on sale everywhere.

You can't park here. = Parking is not allowed here.

We use they/them to talk about institutions and organisations:

They serve good food here. (they = the restaurant)

Ask them for a cheaper ticket. (them = the airline)

especially the government and the authorities:

They don't let you smoke in here.

They are going to increase taxes.

They are building a new motorway.

They say it's going to rain tomorrow.

It

We use it to talk about ourselves:

on the telephone:

Hello. It's George.

when other people cannot see us:

It's me. It's Mary. (Mary is knocking on the door.)

We also use it to talk about other people:

when we point people out for the first time:

Look. It's Paul McCartney.

Who's that? I think it's John's brother.

when we cannot see someone and we ask them for their name:

Hello. Who is it? (someone answering the phone)

Who is it? (someone about to answer the door)

'it' and 'there' as dummy subjects

English clauses always have a subject:

His father has just retired. > He was a teacher. (NOT Was a teacher.)

I'm waiting for my wife. > She is late. (NOT Is late.)

... except for the imperative:

Go away.

Play it again, please.

there

If there is no other subject, we use there to talk about:

where or when something is:

There's an interesting book on the shelf.

There'll be an eclipse of the moon tonight.

a number or amount:

There is plenty of bread left.

There were twenty people at the meeting.

something existing or happening:

There's a small problem.

There was a nasty fight.

it

We use it to talk about:

times and dates:

It's nearly one o'clock.

It's my birthday.

the weather:

It's raining.

It's a lovely day.

It was getting cold.

We use it with the verb be and an –ing form or to-infinitive to express opinions:

It's great living here.

It's nice to meet you.

Possessives: pronouns

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Possessive adjective</u>	<u>Possessive pronoun</u>
I	me	my	mine
you	you	your	yours
he	him	his	his
she	her	her	hers
it	it	its	-
we	us	our	ours
they	them	their	theirs

Be careful!

Possessive pronouns do not have an apostrophe:

Is that car yours/hers/ours/theirs?

(NOT Is that car your's/her's/our's/their's?)

We can use a possessive pronoun instead of a full noun phrase to avoid repeating words:

Is that John's car?

No, it's mine. (NOT No, it's [my car].)

Whose coat is this?

Is it yours? (NOT Is it [your coat]?)

Her coat is grey.

Mine is brown. (NOT [My coat] is brown.)

We can use possessive pronouns and nouns after "of". We can say:

Susan is one of my friends. > Susan is a friend of mine.

(NOT Susan is a friend of me.)

I am one of Susan's friends. > I am a friend of Susan's.

(NOT I am a friend of Susan.)

Demonstratives

this and these

We use this (singular) and these (plural) as pronouns:

to talk about people or things near us:

This is a nice cup of tea.

Whose shoes are these?

to introduce people:

This is Janet.

These are my friends John and Michael.

Be careful!

We say, This is John and this is Michael. (NOT These are John and Michael.)

to begin a conversation on the phone:

Hello, this is David. Can I speak to Sally?

that and those

We use that (singular) and those (plural) as pronouns to talk about things that are not near us:

What's that?

Those are very expensive shoes.

This is our house, and that's Rebecca's house over there.

Demonstratives

We also use that to reply to something someone has said:

'Shall we go to the cinema?' 'Yes, that's a good idea.'

'I've got a new job.' 'That's great.'

'I'm very tired.' 'Why is that?'

With nouns

We can also use this, these, that and those with nouns. We use this and these for people or things near us:

We have lived in this house for twenty years.

Have you read all of these books?

and that and those for people or things that are not near us:

Who lives in that house?

Who are those people?

'one' and 'ones'

We use one (singular) and ones (plural):

after an adjective:

See those two girls? Helen is the tall one and Jane is the short one.

Which is your car, the red one or the blue one?

My trousers are torn. I need some new ones.

after the:

See those two girls? Helen is the one on the left.

Let's look at the photographs – the ones you took in Paris.

after which in questions:

You can borrow a book. Which one do you want?

Which ones are yours?

Pronouns in questions

We use who to ask questions about people:

Who is that?

Who lives here?

Who did you see?

We use whose to ask about possession:

Whose coat is this? or Whose is this coat?

Whose book is that? or Whose is that book?

Whose bags are those? or

Whose are those bags?

We use what to ask questions about things:

What is that?

What do you want?

We use which to ask someone to choose something:

Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

I've got two books. Which do you want?

We can also use what and which with nouns:

What subjects did you study at school?

What newspaper do you read?

Which newspaper do you read – The Times or The Guardian?

Which book do you want?

Which one is yours?

We often have a preposition at the end of a question:

Who does this book belong to?

What are you looking for?

Which university did you go to?

Reflexive pronouns

The reflexive pronouns are:

singular: myself yourself himself herself itself

plural: ourselves yourselves themselves

We use a reflexive pronoun as a direct object when the object is the same as the subject of the verb:

I am teaching myself to play the piano.

Be careful with that knife. You might cut yourself.

We can use a reflexive pronoun as direct object with most transitive verbs, but these are the most common:

amuse

blame

cut

dry

enjoy

help

hurt

introduce

kill

prepare

satisfy

teach

Be careful!

We do not use a reflexive pronoun after verbs which describe things people usually do for themselves:

He washed in cold water.

He always shaved before going out in the evening.

Michael dressed and got ready for the party.

We only use reflexives with these verbs for emphasis:

He dressed himself in spite of his injuries.

She's old enough to wash herself.

We use reflexive pronouns as an indirect object when the indirect object is the same as the subject of the verb:

Would you like to pour yourself a drink?

We've brought ourselves something to eat.

We use reflexive pronouns as the object of a preposition when the object is the same as the subject of the verb:

They had to cook for themselves.

He was feeling very sorry for himself.

but we use object pronouns, not reflexives, after prepositions of place:

He had a suitcase beside him. (NOT himself)

and after with when it means accompanied by:

She had a few friends with her. (NOT herself)

We use reflexives with the preposition by:

to show that someone did something without any help:

The children got dressed by themselves.

I prepared the whole meal by myself.

to show that someone was alone:

He lived by himself in an enormous house.

She walked home by herself.

We use reflexive pronouns to emphasise the person or thing we are referring to:

Kendal itself is quite a small town.

especially if we are talking about someone very famous:

Sir Paul McCartney himself sang the final song.

We often put the reflexive pronoun at the end of the clause when we are using it for emphasis:

I baked the bread myself.

She mended the car herself.

Reflexive pronouns 2

Reflexive pronouns 3

Level: advanced

Some verbs change their meaning slightly when they have a reflexive pronoun as direct object:

Would you like to help yourself to another drink?

= Would you like to take another drink?

I wish the children would behave themselves.

= I wish the children would behave well.

He found himself lying by the side of the road.

= He was surprised when he realised that he was lying by the side of the road.

I saw myself as a famous actor.

= I imagined that I was a famous actor.

She applied herself to the job of mending the lights.

= She worked very hard to mend the lights.

He busied himself in the kitchen.

= He worked busily in the kitchen.

I had to content myself with a few euros.

= I had to be satisfied with a few euros.

Reciprocal pronouns

We use the reciprocal pronouns each other and one another when two or more people do the same thing.

Peter and Mary helped each other.

= Peter helped Mary and Mary helped Peter.

We sent one another Christmas cards.

= We sent them a Christmas card and they sent us a Christmas card.

They didn't look at each other.

= X didn't look at Y and Y didn't look at X.

We also use the possessive forms each other's and one another's:

They helped to look after each other's children.

The group of students often stayed in one another's houses.

Note that we do not use reciprocal pronouns as the subject of a clause.

Be careful!

Reciprocal pronouns and plural reflexive pronouns (ourselves, yourselves, themselves) have different meanings:

John and Fred killed each other.

= John killed Fred and Fred killed John.

John and Fred killed themselves.

= John killed himself and Fred killed himself.

Indefinite pronouns

Some of the indefinite pronouns in English are:

anybody everybody nobody somebody

anyone everyone no one someone

anything everything nothing something

We use indefinite pronouns to refer to people or things without saying exactly who or what they are. We use pronouns ending in -body or -one for people, and pronouns ending in -thing for things:

Everybody enjoyed the concert.

I opened the door but there was no one at home.

It was a very clear day. We could see everything.

We use a singular verb after an indefinite pronoun:

Everybody loves Sally.

Everything was ready for the party.

When we refer back to an indefinite pronoun, we normally use a plural pronoun:

Everybody enjoyed the concert. They stood up and clapped.

I will tell somebody that dinner is ready. They have been waiting a long time.

Be careful!

In negative clauses, we use pronouns with no-, not pronouns with any-:

Nobody came. (NOT Anybody didn't come.)

We do not use another negative in a clause with nobody, no one or nothing:

Nobody came. (NOT Nobody didn't come.)

Nothing happened. (NOT Nothing didn't happen.)

We can add 's to an indefinite pronoun to make a possessive:

They were staying in somebody's house.

Is this anybody's coat?

We use else after indefinite pronouns to refer to other people or things:

All the family came, but no one else.

If Michael can't come, we'll ask somebody else.

I think this is somebody else's coat.

Relative pronouns and relative clauses

The relative pronouns are:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Possessive</u>
who	who/whom	whose
which	which	whose
that	that	-

We use relative pronouns to introduce relative clauses. Relative clauses tell us more about people and things:

Lord Thompson, who is 76, has just retired.

This is the house which Jack built.

Marie Curie is the woman that discovered radium.

We use:

who and whom for people

which for things

that for people or things.

Two kinds of relative clause

There are two kinds of relative clause:

1. We use relative clauses to make clear which person or thing we are talking about:

Marie Curie is the woman who discovered radium.

This is the house which Jack built.

In this kind of relative clause, we can use that instead of who or which:

Marie Curie is the woman that discovered radium.

This is the house that Jack built.

We can leave out the pronoun if it is the object of the relative clause:

This is the house that Jack built. (that is the object of built)

Be careful!

The relative pronoun is the subject/object of the relative clause, so we do not repeat the subject/object:

Marie Curie is the woman who she discovered radium.

(who is the subject of discovered, so we don't need she)

This is the house that Jack built it.

(that is the object of built, so we don't need it)

2. We also use relative clauses to give more information about a person, thing or situation:

Lord Thompson, who is 76, has just retired.

We had fish and chips, which I always enjoy.

I met Rebecca in town yesterday, which was a nice surprise.

With this kind of relative clause, we use commas (,) to separate it from the rest of the sentence.

Be careful!

In this kind of relative clause, we cannot use that:

Lord Thompson, who is 76, has just retired.

(NOT Lord Thompson, that is 76, has just retired.)

and we cannot leave out the pronoun:

We had fish and chips, which I always enjoy.

(NOT We had fish and chips, I always enjoy.)

whose and whom

We use whose as the possessive form of who:

This is George, whose brother went to school with me.

We sometimes use whom as the object of a verb or preposition:

This is George, whom you met at our house last year.

(whom is the object of met)

This is George's brother, with whom I went to school.

(whom is the object of with)

but nowadays we normally use who:

This is George, who you met at our house last year.

This is George's brother, who I went to school with.

Relative pronouns with prepositions

When who(m) or which have a preposition, the preposition can come at the beginning of the clause:

I had an uncle in Germany, from who(m) I inherited a bit of money.

We bought a chainsaw, with which we cut up all the wood.

or at the end of the clause:

I had an uncle in Germany, who(m) I inherited a bit of money from.

We bought a chainsaw, which we cut all the wood up with.

But when that has a preposition, the preposition always comes at the end:

I didn't know the uncle that I inherited the money from.

We can't find the chainsaw that we cut all the wood up with.

when and where

We can use when with times and where with places to make it clear which time or place we are talking about:

England won the World Cup in 1966. It was the year when we got married.

I remember my twentieth birthday. It was the day when the tsunami happened.

Do you remember the place where we caught the train?

Stratford-upon-Avon is the town where Shakespeare was born.

We can leave out when:

England won the World Cup in 1966. It was the year we got married.

I remember my twentieth birthday. It was the day the tsunami happened.

We often use quantifiers and numbers with relative pronouns:

all of which/whom most of which/whom many of which/whom

lots of which/whom a few of which/whom none of which/whom

one of which/whom two of which/whom etc.

She has three brothers, two of whom are in the army.

I read three books last week, one of which I really enjoyed.

There were some good programmes on the radio, none of which I listened to.

What Are Articles?

Articles are words that define a noun as specific or unspecific. Consider the following examples:

After the long day, the cup of tea tasted particularly good.

By using the article the, we've shown that it was one specific day that was long and one specific cup of tea that tasted good.

After a long day, a cup of tea tastes particularly good.

By using the article a, we've created a general statement, implying that any cup of tea would taste good after any long day.

Confused about articles?

Grammarly provides suggestions as you write.

English has two types of articles: definite and indefinite. Let's discuss them now in more detail.

The Definite Article

The definite article is the word the. It limits the meaning of a noun to one particular thing. For example, your friend might ask, "Are you going to the party this weekend?" The definite article tells you that your friend is referring to a specific party that both of you know about. The definite article can be used with singular, plural, or uncountable nouns. Below are some examples of the definite article the used in context:

Please give me the hammer.

Please give me the red hammer; the blue one is too small.

Please give me the nail.

Please give me the large nail; it's the only one strong enough to hold this painting.

Please give me the hammer and the nail.

The Indefinite Article

The indefinite article takes two forms. It's the word a when it precedes a word that begins with a consonant. It's the word an when it precedes a word that begins with a vowel. The indefinite

article indicates that a noun refers to a general idea rather than a particular thing. For example, you might ask your friend, “Should I bring a gift to the party?” Your friend will understand that you are not asking about a specific type of gift or a specific item. “I am going to bring an apple pie,” your friend tells you. Again, the indefinite article indicates that she is not talking about a specific apple pie. Your friend probably doesn’t even have any pie yet. The indefinite article only appears with singular nouns. Consider the following examples of indefinite articles used in context:

Please hand me a book; any book will do.

Please hand me an autobiography; any autobiography will do.

Exceptions: Choosing A or An

There are a few exceptions to the general rule of using a before words that start with consonants and an before words that begin with vowels. The first letter of the word honor, for example, is a consonant, but it’s unpronounced. In spite of its spelling, the word honor begins with a vowel sound. Therefore, we use an. Consider the example sentence below for an illustration of this concept.

My mother is a honest woman.

My mother is an honest woman.

Similarly, when the first letter of a word is a vowel but is pronounced with a consonant sound, use a, as in the sample sentence below:

She is an United States senator.

She is a United States senator.

This holds true with acronyms and initialisms, too: an LCD display, a UK-based company, an HR department, a URL.

Article Before an Adjective

Sometimes an article modifies a noun that is also modified by an adjective. The usual word order is article + adjective + noun. If the article is indefinite, choose a or an based on the word that immediately follows it. Consider the following examples for reference:

Eliza will bring a small gift to Sophie’s party.

I heard an interesting story yesterday.

Indefinite Articles with Uncountable Nouns

Uncountable nouns are nouns that are either difficult or impossible to count. Uncountable nouns include intangible things (e.g., information, air), liquids (e.g., milk, wine), and things that are too large or numerous to count (e.g., equipment, sand, wood). Because these things can't be counted, you should never use a or an with them—remember, the indefinite article is only for singular nouns. Uncountable nouns can be modified by words like some, however. Consider the examples below for reference:

Please give me a water.

Water is an uncountable noun and should not be used with the indefinite article.

Please give me some water.

However, if you describe the water in terms of countable units (like bottles), you can use the indefinite article.

Please give me a bottle of water.

Please give me an ice.

Please give me an ice cube.

Please give me some ice .

Note that depending on the context, some nouns can be countable or uncountable (e.g., hair, noise, time):

We need a light in this room.

We need some light in this room.

Using Articles with Pronouns

Possessive pronouns can help identify whether you're talking about specific or nonspecific items. As we've seen, articles also indicate specificity. But if you use both a possessive pronoun and an article at the same time, readers will become confused. Possessive pronouns are words like his, my, our, its, her, and their. Articles should not be used with pronouns. Consider the examples below.

Why are you reading the my book?

The and my should not be used together since they are both meant to modify the same noun. Instead, you should use one or the other, depending on the intended meaning:

Why are you reading the book?

Why are you reading my book?

Omission of Articles

Occasionally, articles are omitted altogether before certain nouns. In these cases, the article is implied but not actually present. This implied article is sometimes called a “zero article.” Often, the article is omitted before nouns that refer to abstract ideas. Look at the following examples:

Let’s go out for a dinner tonight.

Let’s go out for dinner tonight.

The creativity is a valuable quality in children.

Creativity is a valuable quality in children.

Many languages and nationalities are not preceded by an article. Consider the example below:

I studied the French in high school for four years.

I studied French in high school for four years.

Sports and academic subjects do not require articles. See the sentences below for reference:

I like to play the baseball.

I like to play baseball .

My sister was always good at the math .

My sister was always good at math .

Basic Vocabulary

BABY ROOM / NURSERY

Babies need many special things made just for them.

Everything is made special, from baby clothes that are their small size to baby shampoo to wash their delicate hair.

A special type of underwear for a baby is called a diaper or a nappy. It holds all of the baby's body wastes until they learn to go to the toilet by themselves. There are two types of them, the disposal ones where you throw them away each time you change the baby, but there are also cloth diapers that you wash after every use.

The ones that you throw away have adhesive, but the cloth nappies are closed with a safety pin. A safety pin is a small needle that goes through the fabric and then closes, so that it never hurts the baby.

A changing table is where the mum or dad changes the diapers of the baby and makes him/her clean.

Baby lotion is rubbed on the baby's skin to keep it soft.

Baby powder is a white powder that is rubbed on the baby's skin to keep the baby dry and many times smell nice.

Ointment is a type of medicine put on a baby's bottom to keep him or her from having a rash.

Baby wipes are like toilet paper for adults, but are thicker and wet so that they clean the baby better.

Cotton swabs are small pieces of cotton on both ends of a type of small stick. They are used to help clean the baby.

Tissues are thin sheets of cotton that you use when you sneeze and wipe your nose.

A bib is what a baby wears when it eats so that the baby doesn't get his/her clothes dirty. Babies eat special food called baby food that is normal food mashed to become soft and easy for the baby to eat.

Before babies can eat baby food they drink milk. Milk can come from their mother or from a special formula. The milk that does not come directly from the mother is put in a baby bottle for the baby to suck on.

A nipple is named for the part of the mother's breast from where the baby drinks the milk. It is also the name of the rubber part of the bottle where the baby drinks. It is sometimes also called the teat.

A mobile is a decoration that hangs over the crib. There are different objects hanging down for the baby to see while he is awake in his crib which is the special small bed for a baby. It normally has a type of fence or wall around the four sides so that the baby does not fall out.

A cradle is a small bed for a newly born baby that rocks, it is also sometimes called a cot.

A bouncer is a great toy for a baby. It has a seat for the baby to sit in and hangs from the ceiling so that the baby can bounce up and down.

A walker is a toy on wheels that a baby can hold on to while it is learning how to walk.

A potty is the name for a small portable toilet for a young child to learn how to use the toilet.

A pacifier is a piece of plastic that is placed in the baby's mouth to keep the baby busy sucking on the object. Mums use the pacifier to keep the baby from crying. Another name for a pacifier is a dummy.

A booster seat or a baby seat is a special chair for a baby that is placed on top of a normal chair. It helps them to be taller so that they can reach the table when they eat. For younger babies they have a special chair called a highchair that has a little table attached to the chair so that the baby can eat and cannot fall out of the chair.

A car seat is a special chair that is placed in a car on top of the normal seat that is made special so that the baby is always safe while riding in the car.

A doll is a special toy for a baby that looks like a person. Often little children carry around their own doll like it is their own baby. Another special type of soft toy is a stuffed animal. It is a soft toy in the shape of an animal. The most famous kind of stuffed animal is the teddy bear.

Other toys for babies include blocks. Blocks are small cubes of wood or plastic. The babies play with the blocks and learn to build different objects by stacking the blocks.

A rattle is a small toy for a baby that has small objects inside of a ball with a handle. The rattle lets the baby shake it and make a noise.

Babies are often in pain when they have new teeth coming in. A teething ring is a special toy that a baby can chew on to help them with the pain of their new teeth.

A toy chest is a box where the parents keep all of the baby's toys.

A baby carrier is a special object that attaches to the dad or mum and allows them to carry the baby without using his or her hands.

A pushchair or stroller is a chair for the baby to sit in that has wheels on the bottom so that the parent can walk and push the baby in the chair at the same time. A pram is similar, but the baby lays down in a bed, rather than sitting up in a chair.

A play pen is a small area with four walls around it so that the baby has a space to play, but cannot get out to the rest of the room. It provides a safe place for the baby to play.

A nightlight is a small light that shines so that it is bright enough that the child can see in the darkness and isn't afraid, but not bright enough to bother the child while he/she sleeps. Some adults who are afraid of the dark still sleep with a nightlight.

BATHROOM

There are two main uses for the bathroom. One is to have a shower or bath to clean yourself. The other is to go to the toilet.

When you want to clean yourself you use the shower (where you stand up) or the bathtub (where you sit in a lot of water).

Almost every house has a shower. This is where you clean yourself by standing in a cubicle where water comes out of a shower head (showerhead) which is situated on the wall above your head.

Sometimes the shower is not in a cubicle but combined with a bathtub. When this happens, you usually need a shower curtain so that the water doesn't splash onto the bathroom floor. This shower curtain usually has curtain rings which are then held in position by a curtain rod.

A rubber mat is placed on the floor of the shower so that you don't accidentally slip.

When you are in the shower and you don't want your hair to get wet you put on a shower cap which is a plastic covering for your hair.

To clean the dirt off your body you use soap. You can find this in the soap dish. Some people like to use shower gel which comes in a plastic bottle instead of soap.

You can use a facecloth or flannel to help you remove the soap from your body.

You use shampoo to clean your hair and then conditioner to make it softer and easier to comb.

After you have washed your hair, you can use a hair dryer to dry it. This is an electrical appliance which blow hot air at your hair.

You can dry yourself with a towel which is normally hanging on the towel rail.

Another use for the bathroom is to go the toilet. Remember to use toilet paper to clean your private parts when you have finished.

You finish using the toilet you have to flush it. If whatever is in the toilet doesn't disappear, you might have to use a plunger to help push it down the drain. A toilet brush is used to clean the inside of the toilet.

Women usually hate it when men leave the toilet seat up.

If the toilet smells bad after someone has used it, you might want to use air freshener so that smells nice again.

Remember to wash your hands after going to the toilet. You use the sink to do this. Another way of saying sink is washbasin or hand basin.

The sink contains a faucet or tap where the cold water and hot water come out. The water then goes into the sink. If there isn't a plug, the water then disappears down the drain. To dry your hands, you can use a hand towel.

Above the hand basin you will normally find a mirror. You use a mirror to see yourself and to help you brush your hair. Sometimes the mirror is actually the door of a medicine cabinet which is a place to keep your medicine. This is sometimes called a medicine chest too.

After every meal you should brush your teeth. You need to put some toothpaste on your toothbrush to clean them properly.

Men often have hair that grows on their face. If there is a lot of hair, it is called a beard. BUT if a man doesn't want a beard he uses a shaver to remove it. The razor is the sharp blade that is used to cut.

You leave all of your dirty clothes in the laundry basket. Sometimes this basket is called a hamper.

When you want to see how much you weigh, you use a scale.

BEDROOM

A bedside table, a night table, and a nightstand are all different names for a small table that is next to a bed.

This table normally has a lamp and an alarm clock on it. It is called an alarm clock because the clock makes a loud sound in the morning to wake you up. Sometimes the clock is called a clock radio, because it plays music from the radio instead of making a loud noise.

Also a box of tissues is often set on a nightstand. This way you can blow your nose at night before you go to sleep or other emergencies.

Sometimes people use their bedrooms for other things. They change the furniture depending on the time of day. A daybed, for example, is a bed at night, but becomes a sofa during the day with large pillows. The name for the large pillows on a sofa is a cushion. A convertible sofa has a mattress underneath that can be pulled out at night to sleep on. Some people also call it a sofa bed. A cot is small bed where babies sleep and is also used to describe a small temporary bed, something that you do not sleep on normally.

The bed is the most important piece of furniture in a bedroom. It has many different parts. The mattress is the large soft part of the bed where you sleep. Below the mattress is the box spring that holds the mattress up and makes the bed comfortable.

The pillow is where you put your head when you sleep. It is smaller than a cushion and is covered with a piece of cloth called a pillowcase. The pillowcase normally matches the sheets on the bed. There are two sheets for every bed. One is a fitted sheet that covers the mattress and has a piece of elastic around the edge. The other sheet is called the flat sheet, because it doesn't have any elastic. The person sleeps between the two sheets. On top of the sheets there are blankets that are thicker to keep you warm. The blanket on the very top is called a bedspread. It is a blanket that is made special for the size of the bed.

A dust ruffle, sometimes called a bed skirt, is a piece of fabric that hangs off the side of the bed, so that you cannot see what is underneath the mattress and box spring.

There are many different sizes for beds. The smallest one is called a twin bed; it is a bed only for one person, also called a single bed. Then there is a queen size bed, where two people can sleep. Bigger than that there is a king size bed.

A canopy bed is a fancy bed with four large posts (one at each corner of the bed) holding a piece of fabric high above the bed.

Kids like to sleep in bunk beds. Often there are two beds, one on top of the other.

A waterbed is when the mattress is filled with water instead of fabric. The bed moves with the person as he sleeps.

A special type of blanket is called a quilt. It is made by sewing many small pieces of cloth together. It was a traditional gift for families to give young couples on their wedding. Many women would sew together to create a large quilt. It takes many hours of work to make a quilt.

A duvet is a set of two thick sheets sewn together on the ends. You put a type of blanket inside the duvet. This way you can change the look of the bed and change the thickness of the blankets on the bed depending on the season.

An electric blanket keeps you extra warm by running electricity through it to create heat. Some people have a hot water bottle which is a container filled with hot water and sealed with a stopper.

A headboard is a large piece of wood or other material that goes above the bed against the wall.

A bureau is a large piece of furniture where people place their clothes that do not go in the closet or wardrobe which are the same thing through a part of the house. Sometimes there is also a small chest of drawers where people place their clean folded clothes and other small

things like socks. Clothes that are not folded go on coat hangers in the closet or wardrobe. Another name for the chest of drawers is a dresser.

There are many different types of floor covering for bedrooms. Carpet is a common type that covers the floor from wall to wall with a soft fabric. Many people however have wood or tile floors and cover only a small part of the floor with small pieces of fabric called rugs.

Curtains hang on the wall near the window. They are large pieces of fabric that are used for decoration. Blinds are smaller, either made of wood or plastic, and are used to block out the light.

Sometimes rather than paint the walls people glue large pieces of paper to the walls with designs on it. This is called wallpaper.

Many times in the bedroom there is an area for the person to get ready in the morning. This area normally has a mirror, so that the person can see how beautiful he or she is. Near the mirror, on top of the dresser the person normally keeps a hairbrush or a comb, to fix their hair. Also on the dresser there is a small box that holds all different types of jewellery that a woman wears. She keeps earrings, necklaces and bracelets in her jewellery box.

COLOURS

What is the difference between Gray and Grey?

The same as with the difference between color and colour, it depends on the country.

The word Gray is used in United States.

The word Grey is used in the rest of the English-speaking countries (England, Australia, NZ etc.)

Word order with colours

There are three ways that you can use a colour in a sentence to describe something:

1. To Be + Colour. e.g. My car is blue.

2. Colour + Noun. e.g. The blue car is mine.

3. Colour is the Noun. e.g. Blue is the colour of my car.

Did you know that, because colours give us more information about a person or a thing, they are adjectives in English?

Light - Dark - Bright

You can also talk in shades (or intensity) of colour in English by using such expressions as:

Light is the opposite of Dark.

Bright: a strong colour that is easy to see.

Helen has dark green eyes.

His light grey hair made him look very distinguished.

Her bright pink lipstick doesn't look good.

The words Light, Dark and Bright are placed before the colour.

Colours + ISH

If you are not exactly sure how to describe a colour, we normally use the suffix -ish.

e.g. Greenish (= approximately green but not exactly green)

The sunset is a beautiful pinkish-purplish colour today.

His shirt is lightish blue in colour.

Typical Things of each Colour

The following is a list of things typically associated with each colour:

Red: Strawberry, Rose, Fire engine, Blood, Heart

Orange: Pumpkin, Carrot, Basketball

Yellow: Cheese, Sun, Butter, Lemon

Green: Grass, Lettuce, Frog, Leaf, Lizard

Blue: Sky, Ocean, Blueberry, Whale

Black: Bat, Night, Tire (tyre), Fly

White: Paper, Sugar, Milk, Snow, Sheep

Pink: Pig, Tongue, Cotton candy (Candy floss)

Brown: Wood, Cigar, Earth, Acorn, Horse

Grey / Gray: Rock, Lead, Dust, Mouse, Elephant

Purple: Bruise, Grapes

How many more things can you add to each colour?

DAILY ROUTINES

Daily Activities at Home

What are some of the daily activities that you do at home?

I wake up at 7am every morning.

I press the snooze button five times every morning before I turn off the alarm and get up.

I have a cup of coffee and make breakfast. I usually read the newspaper while I have breakfast. My children like to have a shower after they have breakfast but I like to have a shower before I get dressed.

My wife brushes her long hair, and I have short hair so I comb my hair. How do you do your hair in the morning?

It is important to brush your teeth, and some women like to put make-up on.

After I have finished work, I go home to cook dinner. In my house I usually make dinner. The family eat dinner together at 7:30pm.

After dinner I make sure that my children do their homework, and then I chill out on the sofa and watch television.

On television I usually watch the News. My wife usually comes to tell me to take the rubbish out, or wash the dishes.

Our children feed the dog and the cat before they go to bed and I tell them to go to the bathroom too.

If I am sick I have to take my medication, but then I get into my pyjamas and set the alarm so I wake up in the morning.

The last things I do is lock the door, turn off the lights, and go to bed.

It doesn't take me long to fall asleep.

Daily Activities at Work

What are some daily activities that you do at work?

I go to work at 8.45am every morning.

I usually drive to work.

I always check my emails when I get to work, but I don't always reply to them immediately.

I take a taxi or a train if I have a lunch meeting. I never take the bus because it is too slow.

When I am at my desk I usually work on the computer, even during morning tea.

At 1pm most days I have lunch.

At 3pm we have afternoon tea, and that is when we usually talk and eat cake.

When you are in the office you probably have a lot of papers. It is important for you to file your papers, and so that you can find them again you need to organise your files.

When I work I have to make telephone calls. If an important issue happens I ask my secretary to organise a meeting.

Once a month I report to my boss, but maybe you have to report to your boss more often. I usually write a document that my boss can read.

Other Daily Activities

What are some other daily activities that you do?

I exercise at least three times a week.

I usually go to the gym before work, but sometimes I go after work.

I meditate every morning so that I feel less stressed during the day.

Weekly Activities

What are some weekly activities that you do?

I go grocery shopping once a week at the local supermarket.

My family does the housework together every Saturday morning.

I usually do the washing on Sunday morning and when the machine is finished I hang the clothes out to dry.

On Sunday morning we go to church, and if there is lots of noise coming from next door, sometimes we fight with the neighbour.

On Saturday night my parents stay at home and I go out with friends.

Even my friends that live at home call their parents each week.

Every evening, I water the garden.

I usually pay someone to wash the car, but my partner says I should do it, so sometimes I argue with my partner about that.

If we are angry at the neighbour, we seek vengeance by annoying his dogs.

I work in an important office, so I have to shine my shoes each day.

Sometimes we hire a movie, because we don't like to illegally download music and films. I make sure that I synchronise my iPod so I always have new music on it.

To get our shopping, we go to the mall in the car.

Last week I forgot to recharge my travel card, and I had to argue with a bus driver. I couldn't call the office because I forgot to recharge my cellphone!