

Grammar essentials

Hello, and welcome back. In this lesson, we will be taking a look at some grammar essentials.

Some final pieces of English you need to know!

These include: **Articles - Indefinite and Definite, Interjections and Capitalization**



Indefinite and Definite Articles

Recap articles:



A - Used if the noun starts with a consonant (other than a, e, i, o, u).



An- used if the noun starts with a vowel (a, e, i, o, u).



The – Can be used before singular and plural, count and non-count

Indefinite Article

(a, an)

Used before singular nouns that are unspecified: a computer; an apple.

Used before number collectives and some numbers:



A litre.



A hundred.

Used with nouns to form phrases with quantity, amount, or degree:



I am happy a lot.

Definite Article (the)

Used to indicate a noun that has been previously specified:



Pet the dog.



I love the summer.



It's the devil!

Used to indicate a noun that is unique:



The airport is close.

Used to designate a natural phenomenon:



The sky is orange.



The day is short.

Used to refer to a time period:



I looked so funny in the past.

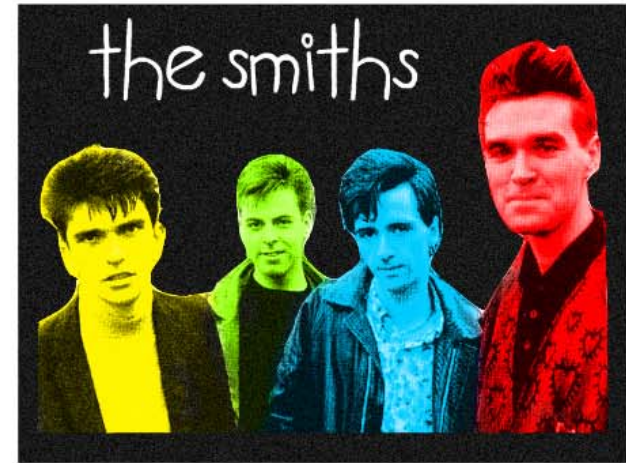


In the 1900's there were many wars.

Used to indicate all the members of a family:



The Joneses are funny.



I listen to the Smiths.

Interjections

An interjection is a word that expresses an emotion and can also just stand alone. Remember emotions are a type of feeling you feel towards someone or something.

These can be good or bad.



When you are expressing a strong emotion, use an exclamation mark (!). A comma (,) can be used for a weaker emotion.

Express a feeling:

Wow, gee, oops, darn, geez, oh.



Oops, my bad.



Wow! I'm sorry I didn't mean to.



Oh, I understand now.

Say yes or no

Yes, no, nope.



Yes! Of course.



No! No way!



Nope. Not today.

Call attention:
yo, hey, you.



Yo, pass the ball!



Hey, can I get your number?

Indicate a pause:
well, um, hmm.



Well, that was awkward.



Um, sure?



Hmm. You ok?

Capitalization

Capitalization is the use of capital letters.

Example :

A a

B b

C c

ABC

The use of capital letters helps people to understand what you are trying to write.
So follow these rules, always capitalise:



The first word in a sentence.



Dogs can be smart.



You are always happy.



The pronoun I

You and **I** are brothers.

The first letter of a proper noun (specific name).

Harry is quite funny.

This is John's football.



The first letter of months, days, and holidays

We will meet on Thursday.

My birthday is in June.



The first letter of nationalities, religions, races of people, and languages.

I love **C**hinese food. I speak only **E**nglish.



The first letter in a person's title.

Mr. jones

My doctor is called **D**r. bones.



Geographic areas: cities, states, countries, mountains, oceans, rivers, etc.

My favourite city is **London**. Italy is in **Europe**.

