

CAMBRIDGE

ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN USE

Vocabulary
reference and
practice

Third Edition

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Elementary

Michael McCarthy
Felicity O'Dell



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ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN USE

**Vocabulary
reference and
practice**

**with answers
and ebook**

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Elementary

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Thanks

Sabina Ostrowska wrote two new units for the Third Edition: Unit 17, *Your phone*, and Unit 20, *Online shopping*. The publishers would like to thank Sabina for her contribution to this new edition.

Introduction

To the student

This book will help you learn around 1,250 new words and phrases. You can use the book yourself, without a teacher. You can do the units in any order you like. If you have the edition with the ebook, you can listen to the pronunciation of all the new vocabulary, and highlight text. See page 171 for more information about the ebook.

Here is what the pages look like:

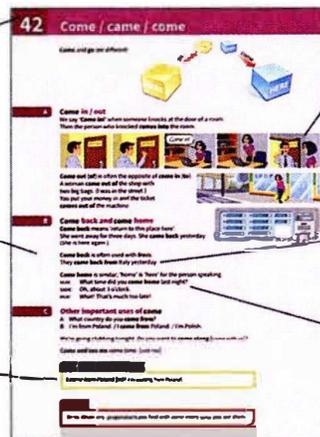
The left-hand page presents the new vocabulary.

The left-hand page is divided into sections.

Common mistakes and learning tips are also given on the left-hand page.

The right-hand page practises the new vocabulary.

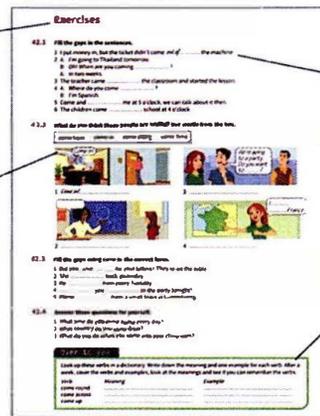
Pictures, tables and diagrams give variety to the exercises.



Diagrams and pictures show the meaning.

Example sentences show the words in context.

Mini-dialogues show how people use the words in real situations.



A lot of different exercise types are used: gap-fills, answering questions, matching, etc.

Over to you tasks give you a chance to do more work on the topic of the unit.

The Answer key at the end of the book is for you to check your answers to the exercises after you do them. The Answer key sometimes has more than one answer. This is because there is often not just one correct way of saying something. The Answer key also has possible answers for most of the exercises which are open-ended, or where you are asked to talk about yourself.

The Index at the end of the book has all the important words and phrases from the left-hand pages. The Index also tells you how to pronounce words. There is a list of phonemic symbols to help you understand the pronunciation on page 158.

It is a good idea to have a dictionary with you when you use the book so you can check the meaning of something, or translate a word into your own language. Sometimes, you will also need a dictionary for the exercises; we tell you when this is so. You also need a vocabulary notebook to write down new words. See page 170 for ideas on how to learn and remember these new words.

We hope you like this book. When you have finished all the units in this book, you can go to the next book in the series, *English Vocabulary in Use: Pre-intermediate and Intermediate*, and after that, to the higher levels, *English Vocabulary in Use: Upper-intermediate* and *English Vocabulary in Use: Advanced*.

To the teacher

This book can be used in class or as a self-study book. It is intended for learners at A1–A2 levels of the Council of Europe scale. It aims to take learners with a very basic level of vocabulary to a point where they can use approximately 2,000 words and phrases and teaches them around 1,250 new words and phrases. The vocabulary has been chosen for its usefulness in everyday situations, and we consulted a written and spoken corpus of present-day English to help us decide on the words and phrases to be included. The new vocabulary (on average 20–30 items per unit) is presented with photos or illustrations and explanations on the left-hand page, and there are exercises and activities on the right-hand page. There is an Answer key and an Index with pronunciation for all the key vocabulary.

The book focuses not just on single words, but also on useful phrases and collocations. For example, difficult teaching points such as the difference between **do** and **make** are dealt with through collocation (we **do** our homework, but we **make** mistakes), and useful phrases (e.g. **come along**) are presented.

The book is organised around everyday topics, but also has units devoted to core verbs such as **get** and **bring / take**. Typical errors are indicated where appropriate, and the most typical meanings and uses are focused on for each key item. The units in the book can be used in any order you like, but it is often a good idea to do blocks of units based round the same topic (e.g. *People, At home, Leisure*).

The right-hand pages offer a variety of different types of activities, including traditional ones such as gap-filling, but also more open-ended ones and personalised activities which enable learners to talk about their own lives. Although the activities and exercises are designed for self-study, they can easily be adapted for pairwork, groupwork or whole-class activities in the usual ways. For example, where there are dialogues, students can take the speaking parts and practise the conversations, and where the exercises have questions and answers, students can practise asking each other the questions and answering them. See who has the best ideas for recording vocabulary in their notebook. The Answer key sometimes gives alternative answers to the exercises, and also gives possible model answers for the more personalised ones.

When the learners have worked through a group of units, it is a good idea to repeat some of the work (for example, the exercises) and to expand on the meaning and use of key words and phrases by extra discussion in class, and find other examples of the key items in other texts and situations. This can be done at intervals of one to three months after first working on a unit. This is important, since it is usually the case that learners need five to seven exposures to a word or phrase before they can really know it, and no single book can do enough to ensure that words are always learnt first time.

When your students have finished and reviewed all the units in this book, they can move on to the next book in this series: *English Vocabulary in Use: Pre-intermediate and Intermediate*, by Stuart Redman.

Find more resources for teachers at www.cambridge.org

We hope you enjoy using the book.

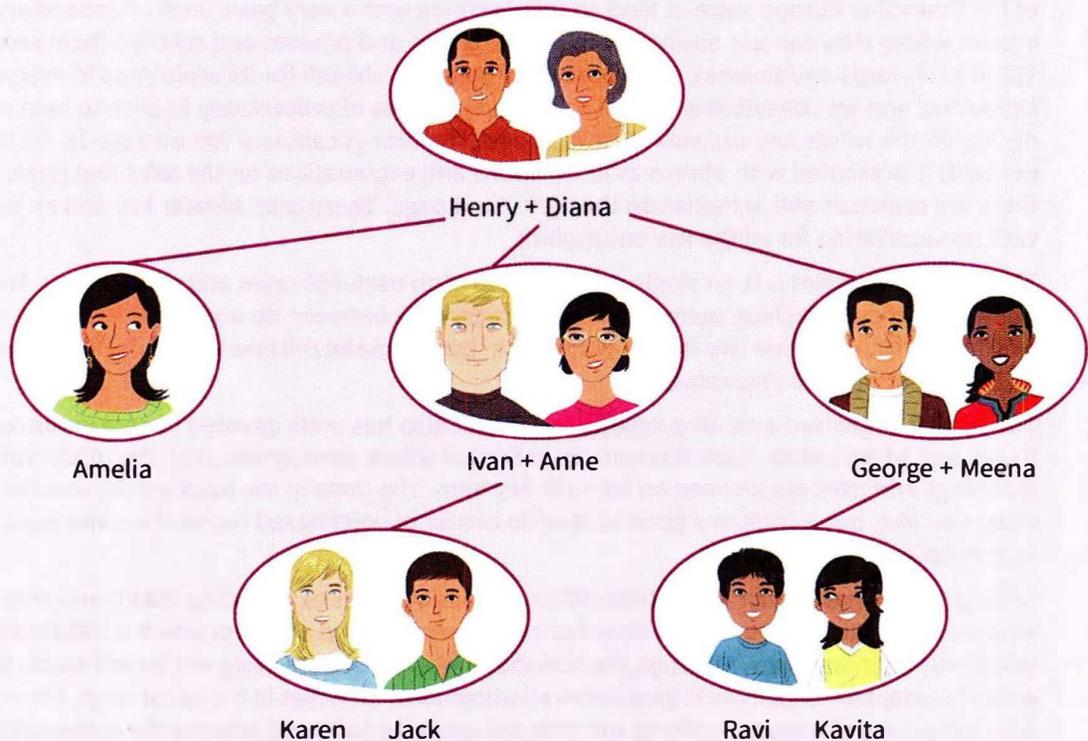
1

The family

A

Family words

A family tree for some of Anne and Ivan Sorokin's **relatives** or **relations**.



Ivan and Anne and their **children**

Ivan is Anne's **husband** and Karen and Jack's **father**.

Anne is Ivan's **wife** and Karen and Jack's **mother**.

Anne and Ivan are Karen and Jack's **parents**.

Karen is Anne and Ivan's **daughter**. Jack is their **son**.

Karen is Jack's **sister**. Jack is Karen's **brother**.

Henry and Diana

Henry is Karen and Jack's **grandfather**. Diana is their **grandmother**.

Henry and Diana are Karen and Jack's **grandparents**.

Karen is Henry and Diana's **granddaughter**. Jack is their **grandson**.

Amelia, George and Meena

George is Karen and Jack's **uncle**.

Amelia and Meena are Karen and Jack's **aunts**.

Karen is Amelia, George and Meena's **niece**. Jack is their **nephew**.

Kavita and Ravi are Karen and Jack's **cousins**.

B

Expressions

Have you got any brothers and sisters?

No, I am **an only child**.

Do you come from a big family?

Yes, I have three brothers and two sisters.

Common mistakes

We say 'my/his wife' (singular) but 'our/their wives' (plural).

Exercises

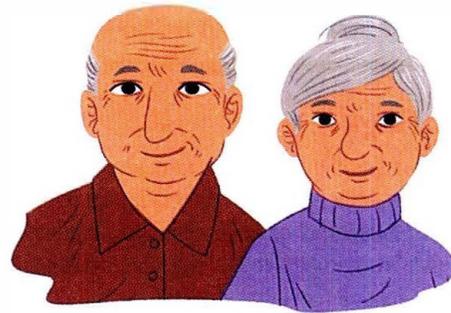
1.1 Look at the family tree on the opposite page. Complete the sentences.

- 1 Kavita is Ravi's *sister*
- 2 Ravi is Kavita's
- 3 Anne is Kavita's
- 4 Ivan is Ravi's
- 5 Diana is Ravi's
- 6 Henry is Kavita's
- 7 Ravi is Ivan's
- 8 Kavita is Ivan's
- 9 Meena is Kavita's
- 10 Meena is George's
- 11 Karen is Ravi's

1.2 The Sorokins have some other relatives. Complete the sentences about them.



Sanjay



Alexander and Leila

Meena has a brother, Sanjay. Sanjay is Kavita and Ravi's ¹ *uncle* and Sanjay's wife is their ² Sanjay and his wife have one son, Prem. Prem is an ³ Henry's parents are still alive. Alexander is Henry's ⁴ and his ⁵ Leila is Henry's ⁶ Alexander and Leila have three ⁷ - Amelia, Ivan and George. Ivan and George and their ⁸ , Anne and Meena, love their ⁹ and visit them as often as possible.

1.3 Ask a friend these questions. Then write sentences about your friend and their family. For example, *Marta has one brother but no sisters.*

- 1 Have you got any brothers and sisters?
- 2 Have you got any cousins?
- 3 Have you got any nieces or nephews?
- 4 Have you got any grandparents?
- 5 Do you come from a big family?

1.4 Cover the opposite page. How many family words can you write down in two minutes? Check what you wrote carefully with the book. Did you spell everything correctly? Which words did you forget?

Over to you

Draw your family tree. Then write sentences. Write about your relations. *Marta is my mother.*
 Use a dictionary to help you.

2

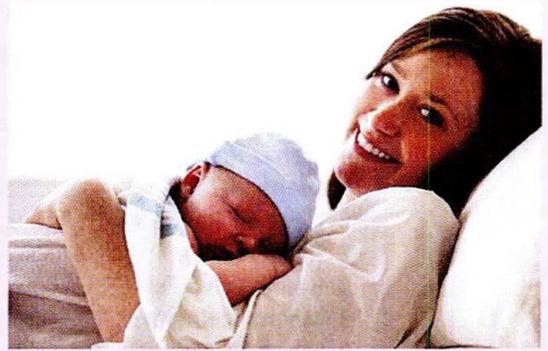
Birth, marriage and death

A

Birth

Anna **had a baby** yesterday.
He **was born** at 1.15 yesterday morning.
He **weighed** 3 kilograms.

They are going to **call** him John – **after** John, his grandfather. His grandfather's **birthday** is June 16th too – but he was born in 1957!
The baby's parents **were born** in 1986.



Common mistakes

Anna **had a baby** [NOT Anna got a baby].
He/She **was born** [NOT He/She born or He/She is born].

B

Marriage

If you do not have a partner, you are **single**.
If you have a husband or wife, you are **married**.
If your husband or wife dies, you are **widowed**.
If your marriage breaks up, you are **separated / divorced**.
[the marriage has legally ended]

Harry and Sarah **got married**.
They **(got) married** in 2001.
(*married* without *got* is more formal)
They went on their **honeymoon** to Italy.
They **were married** for 15 years.

Common mistakes

Sarah **got married** to Harry [NOT with Harry].



(bride)
groom

bride

C

Death

Then Harry became **ill**.
He **died** last year.
He **died of** a heart attack.

Common mistakes

Harry is dead [NOT Harry is died or Harry is death].



The funeral

Exercises

2.1 Think of people you know. Where were they born? When?

- 1 *My mother was born in Scotland on July 4th 1967.*
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

2.2 Find a word on the opposite page which means ...

- 1 the name for a woman on her wedding day. *bride*
- 2 the name for a man on his wedding day.
- 3 what you are if you haven't got a partner.
- 4 to be 57 kilograms.
- 5 what you are if your marriage has legally ended.
- 6 a religious service for a dead person.
- 7 a holiday after a wedding.
- 8 what you are if your husband or wife dies.

2.3 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

in after of to born on

¹*In* 2003 Anne got married ² Daniel Smith. Unfortunately, Daniel's grandmother, Lydia Smith, died ³ old age soon after their wedding. Daniel and Anne were ⁴ their honeymoon when she died. Anne's baby daughter was ⁵ two years later. They called the baby Lydia, ⁶ Daniel's grandmother.

2.4 When were these people born and when did they die? Write sentences.

- 1 Genghis Khan (1162–1227) *Genghis Khan was born in 1162 and died in 1227.*
- 2 Christopher Columbus (1451–1506)
- 3 Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
- 4 Princess Diana (1961–1997)
- 5 Heath Ledger (1979–2008)



2.5 Complete the sentences using *died*, *dead* or *death*.

- 1 Kelly's grandfather *died* last year.
- 2 His made her very sad.
- 3 Her grandmother has been for five years now.
- 4 She of a heart attack.
- 5 Now all Kelly's grandparents are

2.6 Write about your family. Use words and expressions from the opposite page.

Here are some ideas for making your sentences.

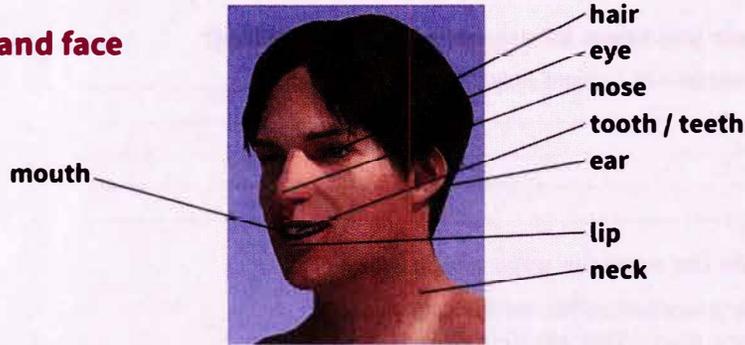
I have I/my
 got married in (year).
 For my/his/her honeymoon, I/he/she went
 to

I have / My has
 children. They were born in and
 (years).

3

Parts of the body

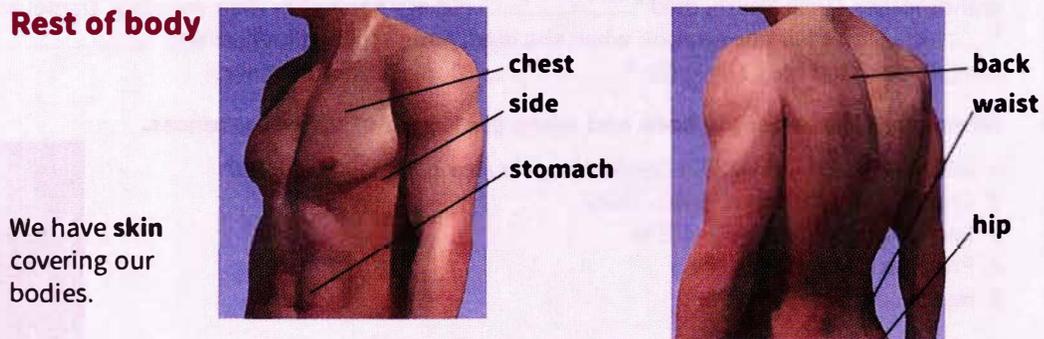
A Head and face



B Arm and leg

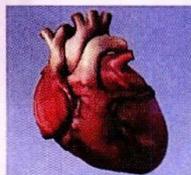


C Rest of body

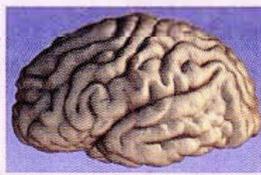


We have **skin** covering our bodies.

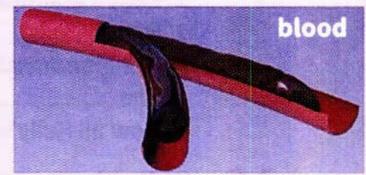
D Inside the body



heart



brain



blood

E Pronunciation problems

eye /aɪ/ knee /ni:/ stomach /'stʌmək/ heart /hɑ:t/ blood /blʌd/ foot /fʊt/ tooth /tu:θ/

F Singular and plurals

one foot – two feet one tooth – two teeth
Hair is a singular word. My hair is very long – I must cut it soon.

Common mistakes

Usually we use my, your, his, her, etc. with parts of the body.
Katie is washing her hair [NOT Jane is washing the hair]. I have a pain in my leg [NOT I have a pain in the leg].
(See Unit 6: Health and illness.)

Exercises

3.1 Here are the names of some parts of the body with the letters mixed up. What are they?

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------------|----------|-------|
| 1 eken | <i>knee</i> | 6 are | |
| 2 osen | | 7 hotot | |
| 3 rathe | | 8 buhtm | |
| 4 hamcost | | 9 akbc | |
| 5 olderush | | 10 tiwas | |

3.2 Complete these sentences with words from the opposite page.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 A hand has five <i>fingers</i> | 6 You hear with your |
| 2 A foot has five | 7 The child sat on her father's |
| 3 An adult has 32 | 8 Your type can be A, B, AB or O. |
| 4 You smell with your | 9 You think with your |
| 5 The is a symbol of love. | |

3.3 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- I have a pain in the side. *I have a pain in my side.*
- That woman has got very big foots.
- My grandfather has a pain in the shoulder.
- The baby has already got two tooths.
- The little girl needs to wash the face and the hands before dinner.
- My hairs are dirty. I need to wash them.

3.4 Parts of the body are often used in compound nouns too. Complete these nouns with a word from the opposite page.



1 *arm*.....chair



3stick



5scarf



2ball

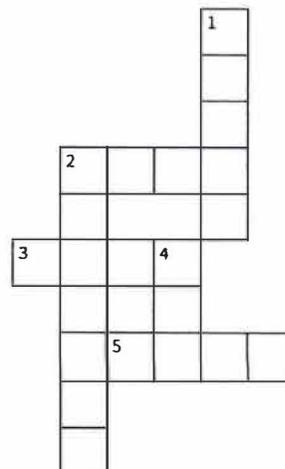


4brush



6bag

3.5 Complete the crossword. Look at the pictures.



4

Clothes

A

Clothes



B

Plural words

These words are always plural in English. They need a plural verb.



My suit **is** new but these trousers **are** old. Her jeans / shorts / tights **are** blue.

Note: You say: **a pair of** trousers / shorts / glasses, etc.

C

Verbs

You **wear** clothes but you **carry** things.

You **wear** glasses.

Naomi **is wearing** a long blue coat.

She's **carrying** a suitcase and a **handbag**.

You can also say: Naomi **has (got)** a blue coat **on**.

You **carry** a **bag** and an **umbrella**.



In the morning you **get dressed** or **put** your clothes **on**. At night you **get undressed** or you **take** your clothes **off**.

Common mistakes

You **put clothes on** but you **take clothes off** [NOT ~~put clothes off~~].

Tip

When you get dressed in the morning, say to yourself *Now I'm putting on my socks. Now I'm putting on my shoes and so on.*

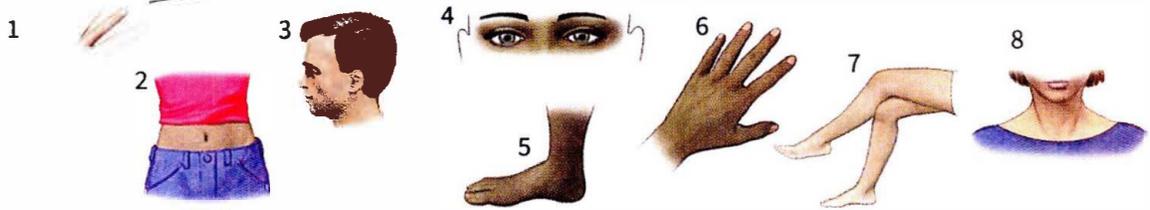
Exercises

4.1 Complete the sentences.

- Joe has a job interview today, so he's wearing a smart suit....., a white shirt..... and a tie.....
- Julia's not working today, so she's wearing a T-shirt..... and shorts.....
- Lucy is going to play tennis. She's wearing white shorts..... and trainers.....
- Gianni is going to a business meeting. He's.....ing a briefcase..... with his papers and laptop.
- My trousers are too big. I have to wear a belt.....
- It's cold today. I'll wear my jacket....., and I'll take my coat..... too.

4.2 Match the item of clothing with the part of the body.

scarf belt shoe hat glove glasses tights ring

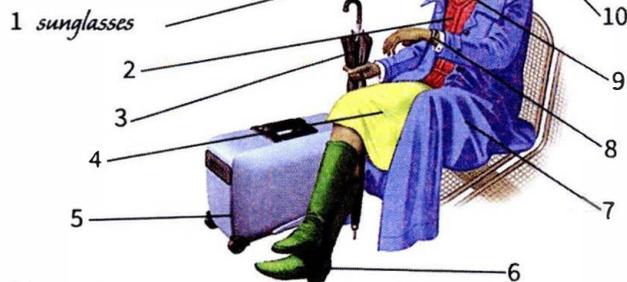


4.3 Complete the sentences with one of the verbs in the box and put it in the right form.

be wear carry have

- Tim's jeans *are*..... blue and his T-shirt..... red.
- Julia..... jeans and a T-shirt today.
- Meena..... got a red coat on and she..... some flowers.
- Sarah's dress..... old but her shoes..... new.
- Last year Harry's trousers..... white. Now they..... grey.
- this a new pair of jeans?
- My favourite pyjamas..... dark green.
- Kim..... a new pair of shorts.

4.4 Label the picture.



4.5 Complete the verbs in the table.

morning	night
get <i>dressed</i>	get.....
or..... your clothes on	or..... your clothes off

4.6 What are you wearing today? Use a dictionary to help you.

I'm wearing a white T-shirt and a blue jumper. I've got a pair of black trousers on. I'm wearing blue socks and white trainers. I've also got a watch and a pair of glasses on.

5

Describing people

A

Height /haɪt/ and weight /weɪt/

Bettina Schwenke is a very **tall** woman.
Tom Jakes is quite **short**.
If you aren't tall or short, you are of **medium height**.

Agata Sanchez is really **slim**.
I was very **thin** when I was in hospital.
[Slim is more polite than thin]

The doctor said I am **overweight**. [weigh too much]
Their cat is very **fat**. It needs to go on a diet.

Bettina Schwenke

Tom Jakes

Agata Sanchez



B

Face and head

Suri has **dark skin** and **dark hair**. She has **brown** eyes.
Polly has **blonde** (or **fair**) **hair** and **fair skin**. She has **blue** eyes.
Ben has a **beard** and **long hair**. He has **green** eyes.
Luca has a **moustache** /mu'sta:ʃ/ and **short hair**.
You can also use **has got**, for example, Suri **has got dark hair** and **dark skin**.
My mother is a very **beautiful** woman. [very pretty]
My dad's a very **good-looking** man.

Common mistakes

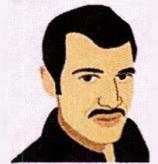
People are tall [NOT People are high].

People have blonde or dark hair [NOT hairs].

My sister is **pretty**. (usually girls / women only)
Bob's an **ugly** man. [**ugly** = the opposite of **beautiful** or **good-looking**]
I'm not ugly or beautiful, I'm just **average-looking**!

Suri

Polly



Ben

Luca

C

Age

My grandmother is 97. She's very **old**. My sister is 14. She's **young**, but would like to be **older**. My father is 56. He's **middle-aged**, but would like to be **younger**!
This hospital is for **elderly** people. (more polite than **old**)

D

Expressions

A: **How tall** is Bettina / Tom? B: She's 1.85 metres tall. / He's 1.48 metres tall.
A: **How heavy are you? / How much do you weigh?** B: I weigh 62 kilos / 74 kilos, etc.
A: **How old is he?** B: He's 84.
A: **What does** Gemma / your sister **look like?**
B: She's tall and dark. She's very pretty.

Tip

Some of the words on this page are a little negative, so be careful how you use them. It's better not to say to someone: 'You are fat / thin / ugly / old.'

Exercises

5.1 Complete the sentences.

- 1 He's only 1 metre 52. He's quite *short*.....
- 2 Very..... people are often good at basketball.
- 3 Models are usually
- 4 Does she have dark skin? No, it's
- 5 She's only seven. She's very
- 6 If I eat too much I'll be
- 7 My grandmother is in this hospital. It's a hospital for people. (don't use 'old')

5.2 Complete the questions using the words in brackets ().

- 1 *How tall is your brother?*..... (your brother)
He's about 1 metre 75.
- 2 Is.....? (Elena's hair)
No, she's got dark hair.
- 3 Is.....? (Mike's hair)
Yes, it is quite long.
- 4 Are.....? (your parents)
Not really, they're middle-aged.
- 5 Is.....? (his sister)
Yes, she's very pretty.
- 6 Why.....? (Sara, so thin)
She's very ill.

5.3 Write sentences about the people in these pictures.



Felicity

Jeff

Anika

Stefan

- 1 Felicity's *got blonde hair and fair skin.*.....
- 2 Jeff has
- 3 Anika's got
- 4 Stefan's hair is and he

5.4 Write questions.

- 1 your brother, height *How tall is your brother?*.....
- 2 your teacher, looks
- 3 you, weight
- 4 your mother, age
- 5 your sister, height
- 6 your parents, looks

5.5 Now write answers to the questions in 5.4.

- 1 *He's not very tall. He's 1 metre 52.*

Over to you

Write down the names of three people you know. Then write about their:

- height (tall, short, medium height)
- eyes (colour)
- hair (colour, long, short, beard)
- looks (pretty, average-looking, etc.)

6

Health and illness

A

How are you today?I'm **very well**, thanks.I'm **fine**, thanks.I **don't feel very well**. I must go home and rest. (I'll probably be OK tomorrow.)I **feel ill**. Can you get a **doctor**, please? (Perhaps it's a serious problem.)That fish was bad. I think I'm going to be **sick!** (I want to vomit.)

B

Everyday problemsHave you got an **aspirin**? I've got a **headache**. /'hedeɪk/I've got **toothache**. /'tu:θeɪk/ I need to go to the **dentist**.I'm going to bed with a hot drink. I've got a **cold**.

C

Problems people have for many years / all their livesI get **hay fever** every summer, from flowers and grass. I **sneeze** all day. /'sni:z/My little brother has **asthma**; sometimes he can't breathe. /'æsmə/

D

Illnesses in hot / tropical countries

mosquito

In some countries, mosquitoes can give people **malaria**. /mə'leəriə/The drinking water was bad, and many children had **cholera**. /'kɒlərə/

E

Serious illnessesEvery year **cancer** kills many people who smoke. /'kænsə/My father went to **hospital** when he had a **heart attack**.**Common mistakes**My father **had a heart attack** [NOT got a heart attack].

F

ExpressionsA Do you **have a healthy diet**?

B Yes, I eat lots of fruit and vegetables.

A Do you **exercise**?B Yes, I like swimming, jogging and cycling. They're really **good for you**.A **I feel stressed!**B Do you? You need to **relax** more and don't panic about work!

Exercises

6.1 Complete the dialogues.

- 1 A: How are you today?
 B: *Very well, thanks.*
 A: Good!
- 2 A: Are you OK?
 B: No,
 A: Would you like to use the bathroom?
 B: Yes, thank you.
- 3 A: I
 B: I'll get a doctor.
 A: Oh, thank you.
- 4 A:
 B: Here's the dentist's phone number.
 A: Thanks.
- 5 A: Your nose is red. Have you got?
 B: Yes.
 A: Have a hot drink and go to bed early.

6.2 Match the illnesses in the table with a possible treatment.

go to the dentist ~~take an aspirin~~ go to hospital go to bed with a hot drink

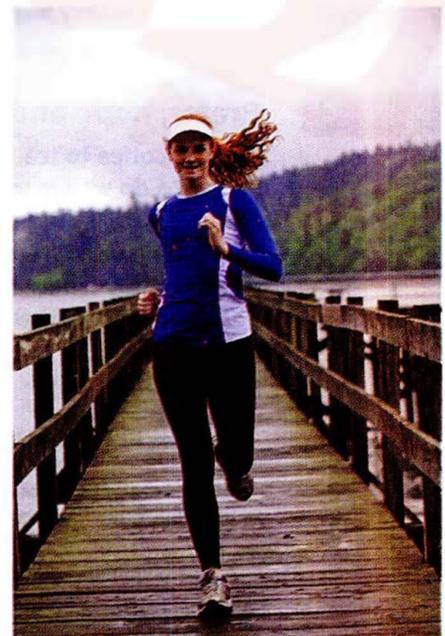
illness	treatment
a headache	<i>take an aspirin</i>
toothache	
a heart attack	
a cold	

6.3 What illnesses are connected with ...

- 1 a mosquito bite? *malaria*
- 2 bad drinking water?
- 3 pollution, traffic fumes, etc.?
- 4 grass, flowers, sunshine, etc.?
- 5 smoking, unhealthy diet, no exercise?

6.4 Answer these questions. Use a dictionary to help you.

- 1 Do you have a healthy diet?
- 2 What exercise do you do?
- 3 Do you often feel stressed?
- 4 Have you ever been in hospital?
- 5 Do you get hay fever in summer?



7

Feelings

A

Love, like and hate



++
love

+
like

-
don't like

--
hate

I **love** my family and my best friend.
I **like** my job.
I **don't like** horror films.
I **hate** spiders.



B

Happy, sad and tired



happy



sad



angry



upset



cold



hot



thirsty



hungry



well



ill



tired



surprised

Common mistakes

I am very **happy about** your news [NOT I am very ~~happy~~ for your news]. BUT You did very well in your exam – I'm very **happy for** you.

C

Prefer, hope and want

I **prefer coffee to tea**. (= I like coffee more than I like tea.)

I **hope to do well** in my exam.

I **hope (that)** my friend does well in his exam.

I **want** a new car. [I would like]

I **want to buy** a new car.

Note: I **want my mother to buy** a new car.

Common mistakes

I **want you to help me** [NOT I want that you help me].

D

Expressions

A Do you like football?

B Yes, I **really like** football / it.
No, I **don't like** football / it very much.

A How's your grandfather?

B He's **very well**, thanks.

A And **how about** your grandmother?

B She's **a bit / a little tired**.

Common mistakes

[NOT I very like football / it. or
I like very much football / it.]

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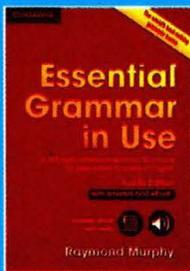
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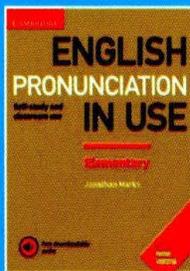
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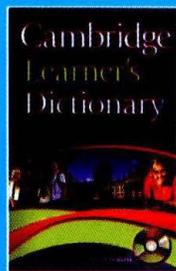
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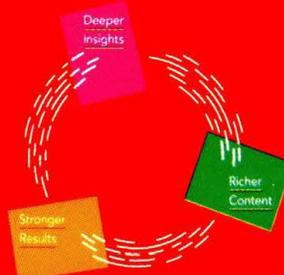
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