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BASIC GRAMMAR IN USE

Self-study reference and
practice for students of
American English

with answers

Fourth Edition

Raymond Murphy

with William R. Smalzer and Joseph Chapple

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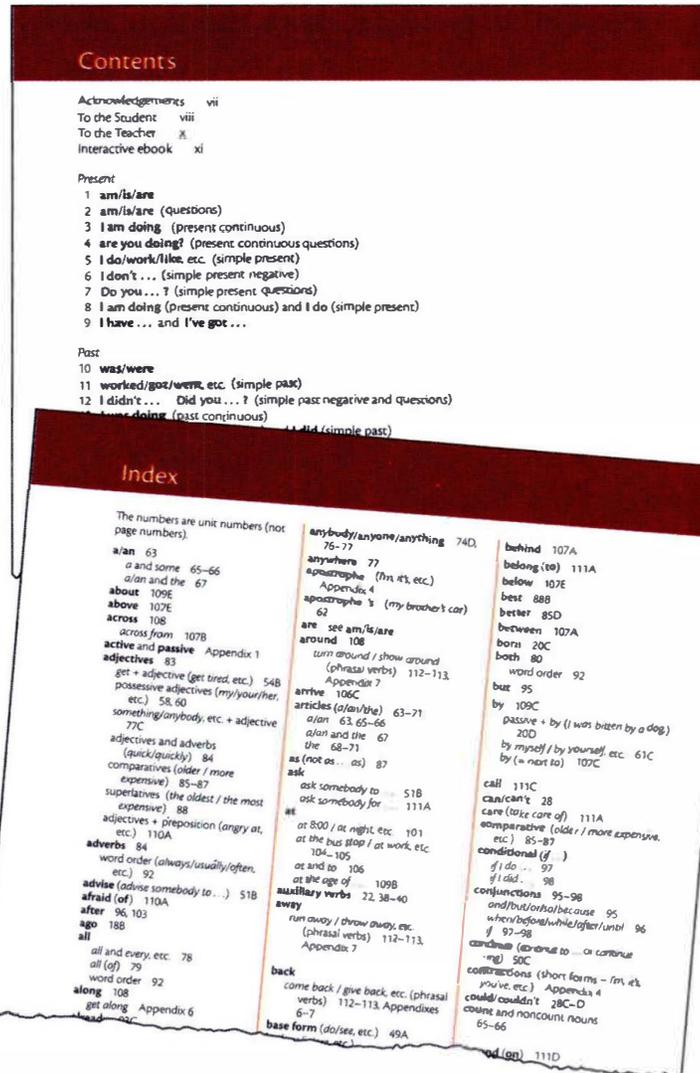
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To the Student

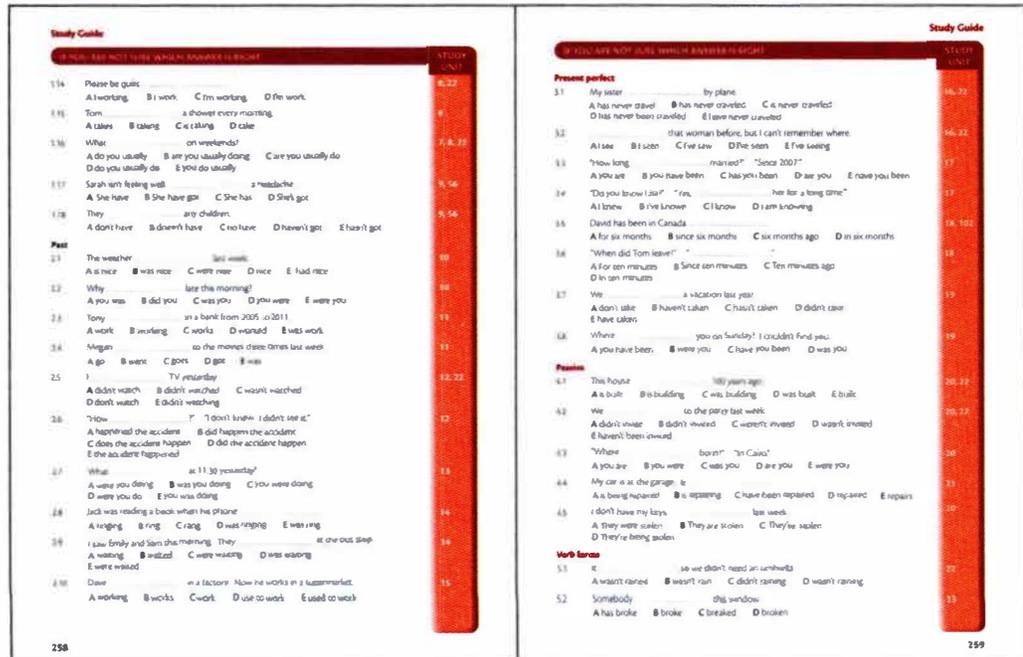
This is a grammar book for beginning to low-intermediate students of English. There are 113 units in the book, and each unit is about a different point of English grammar. There is a list of units at the beginning of the book (*Contents*).

Do not study all the units in order from beginning to end. It is better to choose the units that you need to do. For example, if you have a problem with the present perfect (*I have been, he has done, etc.*), study Units 16–19.

Use the *Contents* or the *Index* (at the back of the book) to find the unit (or units) that you need.



If you are not sure which units you need to study, use the *Study Guide* at the back of the book.



Study Guide (pages 257–269)

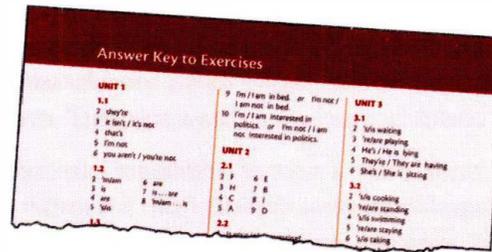
Each unit is two pages. The information is on the left-hand page and the exercises are on the right:

Study the left-hand page (information), and then do the exercises on the right-hand page.

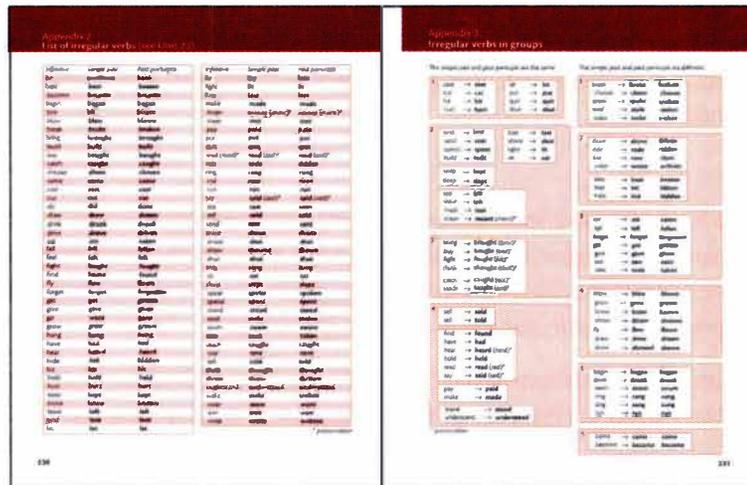


Use the Answer Key to check your answers. The Answer Key is on pages 270–296.

Study the left-hand page again if necessary.

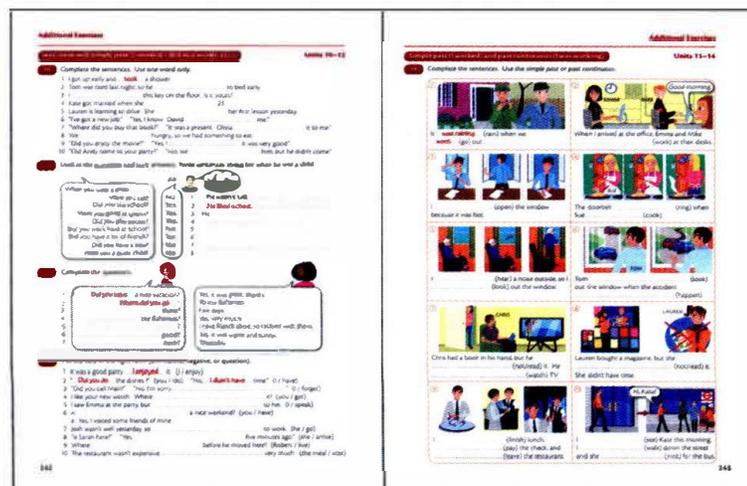


Don't forget the seven Appendixes at the back of the book (pages 229–237). These will give you information about active and passive forms, irregular verbs, short forms, spelling, and phrasal verbs.



There are also Additional Exercises at the back of the book (pages 238–256).

There is a list of these exercises on page 238.



To the Teacher

The most important features of this book are:

- It is a grammar book. It does not deal with other aspects of the language.
- It is for beginning to low-intermediate students of English. It does not cover areas of grammar which are not normally taught at beginning and low-intermediate levels.
- It is a reference book with exercises. It is not a course book and is not organized progressively.
- It is addressed to learners and intended for self-study.

Organization of the book

There are 113 units in the book, each one focusing on a particular area of grammar. The material is organized in grammatical categories, such as tenses, questions, and articles. Units are *not* ordered according to difficulty, and should therefore be selected and used in the order appropriate for the learner(s). The book should *not* be worked through from beginning to end. The units are listed in the *Contents*, and there is a comprehensive *Index* at the end of the book.

Each unit has the same format consisting of two facing pages. The grammar point is presented and explained on the left-hand page and the corresponding exercises are on the right. There are seven *Appendixes* (pages 229–237) dealing with active and passive forms, irregular verbs, short forms (contractions), spelling, and phrasal verbs. It might be useful for teachers to draw students' attention to these.

At the back of the book there is a set of *Additional Exercises* (pages 238–256). These exercises provide "mixed" practice bringing together grammar points from a number of different units (especially those concerning verb forms). There are 35 exercises in this section, and there is a full list on page 238.

Also at the back of the book there is a *Study Guide* to help students decide which units to study – see page 257.

Finally, there is an *Answer Key* (pages 270–296) for students to check their answers to all the exercises in the book. An edition without the *Study Guide* and *Answer Key* is available for teachers who would prefer it for their students.

Level

The book is for beginning learners, i.e., learners with very little English, but not complete beginners. It is intended mainly for beginning students who are beyond the early stages of a beginners' course. It could also be used by low-intermediate learners whose grammar is weaker than other aspects of their English or who have problems with particular areas of basic grammar.

The explanations are addressed to the beginning learner and are therefore as simple and as short as possible. The vocabulary used in the examples and exercises has also been restricted so that the book can be used at this level.

Using the book

The book can be used by students working alone (see *To the Student*) or as supplementary course material. In either case the book can serve as a beginning grammar book.

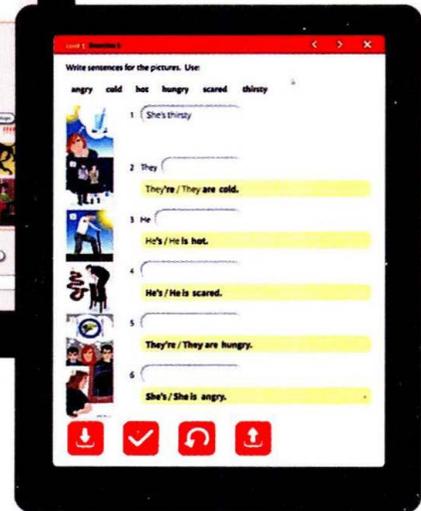
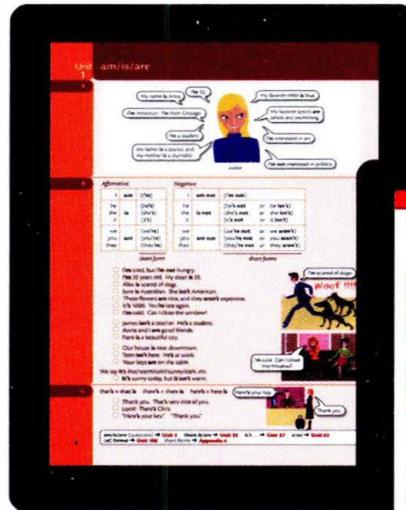
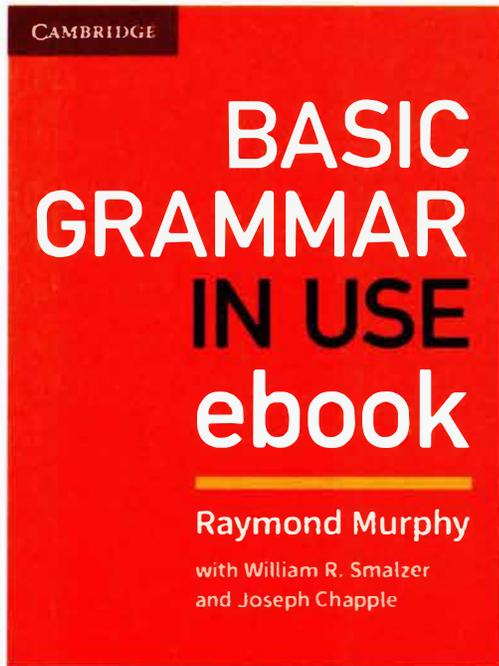
When used as course material, the book can be used for immediate consolidation or for later review or remedial work. It might be used by the whole class or by individual students needing extra help and practice.

In some cases it may be desirable to use the left-hand pages (presentation and explanation) in class, but it should be noted that these have been written for individual study and reference. In most cases, it would probably be better for teachers to present the grammar point in their preferred way with the exercises being done for homework. The left-hand page is then available for later reference by the student.

Some teachers may prefer to keep the book for review and remedial work. In this case, individual students or groups of students can be directed to the appropriate units for self-study and practice.

Interactive ebook

You can buy this book with or without an ebook. The ebook has the same grammar explanations and exercises as the book.



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BASIC GRAMMAR IN USE



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My name **is** Anna. I'm 22.

I'm American. I'm from Chicago.

I'm a student.

My father **is** a doctor, and my mother **is** a journalist.

My favorite color **is** blue.

My favorite sports **are** tennis and swimming.

I'm interested in art.

I'm **not** interested in politics.

ANNA

B

Affirmative

Negative

	am	(I'm)		am not	(I'm not)
he		(he's)	he		(he's not or he isn't)
she	is	(she's)	she	is not	(she's not or she isn't)
it		(it's)	it		(it's not or it isn't)
we		(we're)	we		(we're not or we aren't)
you	are	(you're)	you	are not	(you're not or you aren't)
they		(they're)	they		(they're not or they aren't)

short form

short forms

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- I'm tired, but I'm not hungry.
- I'm 32 years old. My sister is 29.
- Alex is scared of dogs.
- Jane is Australian. She isn't American.
- These flowers are nice, and they aren't expensive.
- It's 10:00. You're late again.
- I'm cold. Can I close the window?
- James isn't a teacher. He's a student.
- Anna and I are good friends.
- Paris is a beautiful city.
- Our house is near downtown.
- Tom isn't here. He's at work.
- Your keys are on the table.

We say it's hot/warm/cold/sunny/dark, etc.

- It's sunny today, but it isn't warm.



C

that's = that is there's = there is here's = here is

- Thank you. That's very nice of you.
- Look! There's Chris.
- "Here's your key." "Thank you."

Here's your key.



am/is/are (questions) → Unit 2 there is/are → Unit 35 it's... → Unit 37 a/an → Unit 63
(at) home → Unit 106 short forms → Appendix 4

Exercises

1.1 Write the short form (**she's** / **we aren't**, etc.).

- 1 she is she's 3 it is not 5 I am not
- 2 they are 4 that is 6 you are not

1.2 Write **am, is, or are**.

- 1 The weather is nice today. 5 Look! There Rachel.
- 2 I not rich. 6 My brother and I good tennis players.
- 3 This bag very heavy. 7 Amy at home. Her children at school.
- 4 These bags very heavy. 8 I a taxi driver. My sister a nurse.

1.3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 Matt is sick. He's in bed.
- 2 I'm not hungry, but thirsty.
- 3 Mr. Thomas is a very old man. 98.
- 4 These chairs aren't beautiful, but comfortable.
- 5 The weather is nice today. warm and sunny.
- 6 "..... late." "No, I'm not. I'm early!"
- 7 Catherine isn't at home. at work.
- 8 "..... your coat." " Oh thank you very much."

1.3 Look at Anna's sentences in 1A. Now write sentences about yourself.

- 1 (name?) My 5 (favorite color or colors?)
- 2 (age?) I My
- 3 (from?) I 6 (interested in ... ?)
- 4 (job?) I I

1.3 Write sentences for the pictures. Use:

angry cold hot hungry scared ~~thirsty~~



- 1 She's thirsty. 3 He 5
- 2 They 4 6

1.6 Write true sentences, affirmative or negative. Use **is/isn't** or **are/aren't**.

- 1 (it / hot today) It isn't hot today. or It's hot today.
- 2 (it / windy today) It
- 3 (my hands / cold) My
- 4 (Brazil / a very big country)
- 5 (diamonds / cheap)
- 6 (Quebec / in the United States)

Write true sentences, affirmative or negative. Use **I'm / I'm not**.

- 7 (tired) I'm tired. or I'm not tired.
- 8 (hungry) I
- 9 (in bed)
- 10 (interested in politics)

A



Jack **was reading** a book.

His phone **rang**.

He **stopped** reading.

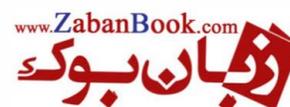
He **answered** his phone.

What **happened**? His phone **rang**. (*simple past*)

What **was** Jack **doing** when his phone rang? } (*past continuous*)
He **was reading** a book.

What **did** he **do** when his phone rang? } (*simple past*)
He **stopped** reading and **answered** his phone.

Jack began reading *before* his phone rang.
So *when* his phone rang, he **was reading**.
he began reading



B

Simple past

- A: What **did** you **do** yesterday morning?
- B: We **played** tennis. (from 10:00 to 11:30)



- Jack **read** a book yesterday. (= from beginning to end)
- Did** you **watch** the game on TV last night?
- It **didn't rain** while we were on vacation.

Past continuous

- A: What **were** you **doing** at 10:30?
- B: We **were playing** tennis.



- Jack **was reading** a book when his phone rang.
- Were** you **watching** TV when I called you?
- It **wasn't raining** when I got up.

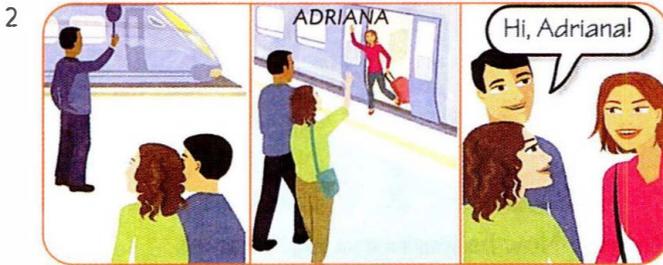
- I **started** work at 9:00 and **finished** at 4:30. At 2:30 I **was working**.
- It **was raining** when we **went** out. (= it started raining *before* we went out)
- I **saw** Emily and Sam this morning. They **were waiting** at the bus stop.
- Grace **fell** asleep while she **was reading**.

Exercises

14.1 Look at the pictures. Put the verbs in the correct form, *past continuous* or *simple past*.



Emily broke (break) her arm last week. It (happen) when she (paint) her room. She (fall) off the ladder.



The train (arrive) at the station, and Adriana (get) off. Two friends of hers, Jon and Rachel, (wait) to meet her.



Yesterday Sue (walk) down the street when she (meet) James. He (go) to the station to catch a train, and he (carry) a bag. They (stop) to talk for a few minutes.

14.2 Put the verb into the *past continuous* or *simple past*.

- 1 A: What was the weather like when you got (get) up this morning?
B: It was raining (rain).
- 2 A: Was Emma busy when you went to see her?
B: Yes, she (study).
- 3 A: (Eric/call) you this morning?
B: Yes, he (call) while I (have) breakfast.
- 4 A: Was Natalie at work today?
B: No, she (not/go) to work. She was sick.
- 5 A: How fast (you/drive) when the police (stop) you?
B: I'm not sure, but I (not/drive) very fast.
- 6 A: (your team / win) the baseball game yesterday?
B: No, the weather was very bad, so we (not/play).
- 7 A: How (you/break) the window?
B: We (play) baseball. I (hit) the ball and it (break) the window.
- 8 A: (you/see) Jenny last night?
B: Yes, she (wear) a very nice jacket.
- 9 A: What (you/do) at 2:00 this morning?
B: I (sleep).
- 10 A: I (lose) my key last night.
B: How (you/get) into your apartment?
A: I (climb) in through a window.

A

We use **the** when it is clear which thing or person we mean:

- What is **the name** of this street? (there is only one name)
- Who is **the best player** on your team? (there is only one best player)
- Can you tell me **the time**, please? (= the time *now*)
- My office is on **the first floor**. (= the first floor of the building)

Don't forget **the**:

- Do you live near **the airport**? (*not* near airport)
- Excuse me, where is **the nearest bank**? (*not* where is nearest...)

B

the same ...

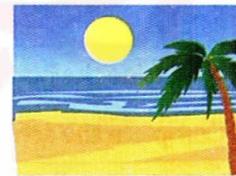
- We live on **the same street**. (*not* on same street)
- "Are these two books different?" "No, they're **the same**." (*not* they're same)

C

We say:

the sun / the moon / the world / the sky / the ocean / the country

- The sky** is blue, and **the sun** is shining.
- Do you live in a city or in **the country**?

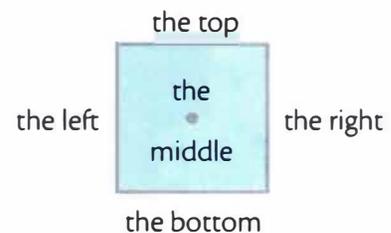


the police / the fire department / the army (of a city, country, etc.)

- My brother is a soldier. He's in **the army**.
- What do you think of **the police**? Do they do a good job?

the top / the end / the middle / the left, etc.

- Write your name at **the top of** the page.
- My house is at **the end of** this block.
- The table is in **the middle of** the room.
- Do you drive on **the right** or on **the left** in your country?



(play) **the piano / the guitar / the trumpet**, etc. (musical instruments)

- Anna is learning to play **the piano**.



the radio

- I listen to **the radio** a lot.



the Internet

- What do you use **the Internet** for?

D

We do *not* use **the** with:

television/TV

- I watch **TV** a lot.
- What's on **television** tonight?

but Can you turn off **the TV**? (= the TV set)

breakfast/lunch/dinner

- What did you have for **breakfast**? (*not* the breakfast)
- Dinner** is ready!

next/last + week/month/year/summer/Monday, etc.

- I'm not working **next week**. (*not* the next week)
- Did you take a vacation **last summer**? (*not* the last summer)



Exercises

68.1 Put in **the** where necessary. Write OK if the sentence is already correct.

- 1 What is name of this street?
- 2 What's on TV tonight?
- 3 Our apartment is on second floor.
- 4 Would you like to go to moon?
- 5 What is best hotel in this town?
- 6 What time is lunch?
- 7 How far is it to football stadium?
- 8 We're taking a trip at end of May.
- 9 What are you doing next weekend?
- 10 I didn't like her first time I met her.
- 11 I'm going out after dinner.
- 12 It's easy to get information from Internet.
- 13 My sister got married last month.
- 14 My dictionary is on top shelf on right.
- 15 We live in country about 10 miles from nearest town.

the name

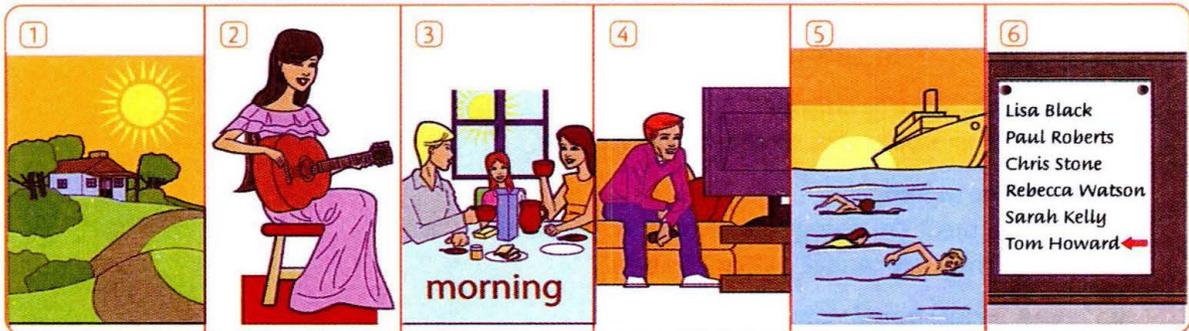
OK

68.2 Complete the sentences. Use **the same** + these words:

age color problem ~~street~~ time

- 1 I live on North Street, and you live on North Street. We live on the same street.
- 2 I arrived at 8:30, and you arrived at 8:30. We arrived at
- 3 Jim is 25, and Sue is 25. Jim and Sue are
- 4 My shirt is dark blue, and so is my jacket. My shirt and jacket are
- 5 I have no money, and you have no money. We have

68.3 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences. Use **the** if necessary.



- 1 The sun is shining.
- 2 She's playing
- 3 They're having
- 4 He's watching
- 5 They're swimming in
- 6 Tom's name is at of the list.

68.4 Complete these sentences. Choose from the list. Use **the** if necessary.

capital ~~dinner~~ lunch middle name police sky TV

- 1 We had dinner at a restaurant last night.
- 2 We stayed at a very nice hotel, but I don't remember
- 3 is very clear tonight. You can see all the stars.
- 4 Sometimes there are some good programs on late at night.
- 5 stopped me because I was driving too fast.
- 6 Tokyo is of Japan.
- 7 "What did you have for?" "A salad."
- 8 I woke up in of the night.

Study Guide

This guide will help you decide which units you need to study.

Each sentence can be completed using one or more of the alternatives (A, B, C, etc.). You have to decide which alternative (A, B, C, etc.) is right. **SOMETIMES MORE THAN ONE ALTERNATIVE IS CORRECT.**

If you don't know or if you are not sure which alternatives are correct, study the unit(s) in the list on the right. You will find the correct sentence in the unit.

There is an Answer Key to this Study Guide on page 300.

IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHICH ANSWER IS RIGHT		STUDY UNIT
Present		
1.1 Can I close the window? A I cold B I'm cold C I have cold D It has cold	1
1.2	Tom He's at work. A isn't here B not here C doesn't here D no is here	1
1.3	".....?" "No, she's out." A Is home your mother B Does your mother home C Is your mother home D Are your mother home	2
1.4	These shoes are nice. A How much are they?- B How many are they? C How much they are? D How much is they?	2
1.5	Look, there's Sarah. a brown coat. A She wearing B She has wearing C She is wearing D She's wearing	3, 22
1.6	You can turn off the TV. it. A I'm not watch B I'm not watching C I not watching D I don't watching	3, 22
1.7	"..... today?" "Yes, he is." A Is working Ben B Is work Ben C Is Ben work D Is Ben working	4, 22
1.8	Look, there's Emily! A Where she is going? B Where she go? C Where's she going? D Where she going?	4, 22
1.9	The earth around the sun. A going B go C goes D does go E is go	5, 22
1.10	We late on weekends. A often sleep B sleep often C often sleeping D are often sleep	5, 22, 92
1.11	We TV very often. A not watch B doesn't watch C don't watch D don't watching E watch not	6, 22
1.12	"..... the guitar?" "Yes, but I'm not very good." A Do you play B Are you play C Does you play D Do you playing E Play you	7, 22
1.13	I don't understand this sentence. What? A mean this word B means this word C does mean this word D does this word mean E this word means	7,22

Answer Key to Exercises

UNIT 1

1.1

- 2 they're
- 3 it isn't / it's not
- 4 that's
- 5 I'm not
- 6 you aren't / you're not

1.2

- 2 'm/am 6 are
- 3 is 7 is... are
- 4 are 8 'm/am... is
- 5 's/is

1.3

- 2 I'm / I am
- 3 He's / He is
- 4 they're / they are
- 5 It's / It is
- 6 You're / You are
- 7 She's / She is
- 8 Here's / Here is

1.4

Example answers:

- 1 My name is Robert.
- 2 I'm 25.
- 3 I'm from Brazil.
- 4 I'm a cook.
- 5 My favorite colors are black and white.
- 6 I'm interested in plants.

1.5

- 2 They're/are cold.
- 3 He's/is hot.
- 4 He's / He is scared.
- 5 They're / They are hungry.
- 6 She's / She is angry.

1.6

- 2 It's/is windy today. or isn't / 's not windy today.
- 3 My hands are cold. or My hands aren't / are not cold.
- 4 Brazil is a very big country.
- 5 Diamonds aren't / are not cheap.
- 6 Toronto isn't / is not in the United States.
- 8 I'm / I am hungry. or I'm not / I am not hungry.

- 9 I'm / I am in bed. or I'm not / I am not in bed.

- 10 I'm / I am interested in politics. or I'm not / I am not interested in politics.

UNIT 2

2.1

- 2 F 6 E
- 3 H 7 B
- 4 C 8 I
- 5 A 9 D

2.2

- 3 Is your job interesting?
- 4 Are the stores open today?
- 5 Where are you from?
- 6 Are you interested in sports?
- 7 Is the train station near here?
- 8 Are your children at school?
- 9 Why are you late?

2.3

- 2 Where's / Where is
- 3 How old are
- 4 How much are
- 5 What's / What is
- 6 Who's / Who is
- 7 What color are

2.4

- 2 Are you Australian?
- 3 How old are you?
- 4 Are you a teacher?
- 5 Are you married?
- 6 Is your wife a lawyer?
- 7 Where's / Where is she from?
- 8 What's / What is her name?
- 9 How old is she?

2.5

- 2 Yes, I am. or No, I'm not.
- 3 Yes, it is. or No, it isn't. / No, it's not.
- 4 Yes, they are. or No, they aren't. / No, they're not.
- 5 Yes, it is. or No, it isn't. / No, it's not.
- 6 Yes, I am. or No, I'm not.

UNIT 3

3.1

- 2 's/is waiting
- 3 're/are playing
- 4 He's / He is lying
- 5 They're / They are having
- 6 She's / She is sitting

3.2

- 2 's/is cooking
- 3 're/are standing
- 4 's/is swimming
- 5 're/are staying
- 6 's/is taking
- 7 're/are building
- 8 'm/am leaving

3.3

- 3 She's / She is sitting on the floor.
- 4 She isn't / She's not reading a book.
- 5 She isn't / She's not playing the piano.
- 6 She's / She is laughing.
- 7 She's / She is wearing a hat.
- 8 She isn't / She's not drinking coffee.

3.4

- 3 I'm sitting on a chair. or I'm not sitting on a chair.
- 4 I'm eating. or I'm not eating.
- 5 It's raining. or It isn't raining. / It's not raining.
- 6 I'm studying English.
- 7 I'm listening to music. or I'm not listening to music.
- 8 The sun is shining. or The sun isn't shining.
- 9 I'm wearing shoes. or I'm not wearing shoes.
- 10 I'm not reading a newspaper.

UNIT 4

4.1

- 2 Are you leaving now?
- 3 Is it raining?
- 4 Are you enjoying the movie?
- 5 Is that clock working?
- 6 Are you waiting for a bus?

4.2

- 2 Where is she going?
- 3 What are you eating?
- 4 Why are you crying?
- 5 What are they looking at?
- 6 Why is he laughing?

4.3

- 3 Are you listening to me?
- 4 Where are your friends going?
- 5 Are your parents watching TV?
- 6 What is Jessica cooking?
- 7 Why are you looking at me?
- 8 Is the bus coming?

4.4

- 2 Yes, I am. or No, I'm not.
- 3 Yes, I am. or No, I'm not.
- 4 Yes, it is. or No, it isn't. / No, it's not.
- 5 Yes, I am. or No, I'm not.
- 6 Yes, I am. or No, I'm not.

UNIT 5

5.1

- 2 thinks 5 has
- 3 flies 6 finishes
- 4 dances

5.2

- 2 live 5 They go
- 3 She eats 6 He sleeps
- 4 He plays

5.3

- 2 open 7 costs
- 3 closes 8 cost
- 4 teaches 9 boils
- 5 meet 10 like ... likes
- 6 washes

5.4

- 2 I never go to the movies.
- 3 Hannah always works hard.
- 4 Children usually like chocolate.
- 5 Julia always enjoys parties.
- 6 I often forget people's names.
- 7 Nick never watches TV.
- 8 We usually have dinner at 6:30.
- 9 Jenn always wears nice clothes.

5.5

Example answers:

- 2 I sometimes read in bed.
- 3 I often get up before 7:00.

- 4 I never go to work by bus.
- 5 I always drink coffee in the morning.

UNIT 6

6.1

- 2 Anna doesn't play the piano very well.
- 3 I don't know my phone number.
- 4 We don't work very hard.
- 5 Mike doesn't have a car.
- 6 You don't do the same thing every day.

6.2

- 1 Carol doesn't like classical music. I like (or I don't like) classical music.
- 2 Bill and Rose don't like boxing. Carol likes boxing. I like (or I don't like) boxing.
- 3 Bill and Rose like horror movies. Carol doesn't like horror movies. I like (or I don't like) horror movies.

6.3

Example answers:

- 2 I never go to the theater.
- 3 I don't ride a bike very often.
- 4 I never eat in restaurants.
- 5 I travel by train a lot.

6.4

- 2 doesn't use 5 don't know
- 3 don't go 6 doesn't cost
- 4 doesn't wear 7 don't see

6.5

- 3 don't know
- 4 doesn't talk
- 5 drinks
- 6 don't believe
- 7 like
- 8 doesn't eat

UNIT 7

7.1

- 2 Do you play tennis?
- 3 Does Emily live near here?
- 4 Do Tom's friends play tennis? / Do they play tennis?
- 5 Does your brother speak English? / Does he speak English?
- 6 Do you do yoga every morning?

- 7 Does Eric often travel on business? / Does he often travel on business?
- 8 Do you want to be famous?
- 9 Does Anna work hard? / Does she work hard?

7.2

- 3 How often do you watch TV?
- 4 What do you want for dinner?
- 5 Do you like football?
- 6 Does your brother like football?
- 7 What do you do in your free time?
- 8 Where does your sister work?
- 9 Do you always have breakfast?
- 10 What does this word mean?
- 11 Does it snow here in the winter?
- 12 What time do you usually go to bed?
- 13 How much does it cost to call Mexico?
- 14 What do you usually have for breakfast?

7.3

- 2 Do you enjoy / Do you like
- 3 do you start
- 4 Do you work
- 5 do you get
- 6 does he do
- 7 does he teach
- 8 Does he enjoy / Does he like

7.4

- 2 Yes, I do. or No, I don't.
- 3 Yes, I do. or No, I don't.
- 4 Yes, it does. or No, it doesn't.
- 5 Yes, I do. or No, I don't.

UNIT 8

8.1

- 2 No, she isn't. Yes, she does. She's playing the piano.
- 3 Yes, he does. Yes, he is. He's washing a window.
- 4 No, they aren't. Yes, they do. They teach.

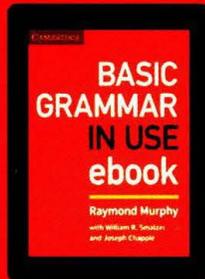
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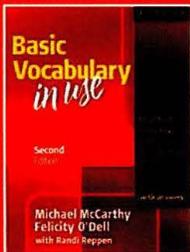
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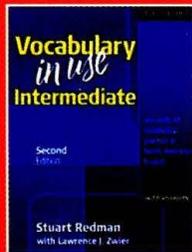


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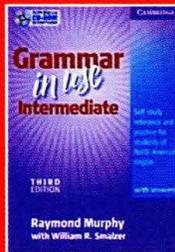
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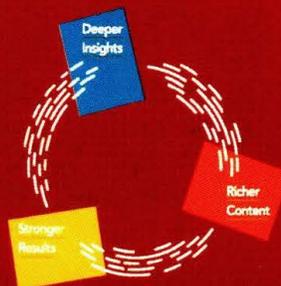
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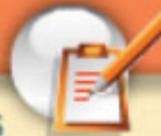
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