

## foot

311

! The best way to see the city is by foot.

✓ The best way to see the city is on foot.

We go *by car/bus/train/plane* but *on foot*. *By foot* is used in American English.

## for

312

1

× I want to go to France for learning how to cook.

✓ I want to go to France to learn how to cook.

When we mention the purpose of an action, we use a *to*-clause.

⇒ 22.1

2

× I have come to England for to learn English.

✓ I have come to England to learn English.

We do not use *for* in front of a *to*-clause.

3

! I can't buy it for I don't have any money.

✓ I can't buy it because I don't have any money.

Nowadays, the use of *for* to introduce a clause of reason occurs mainly in formal and literary styles. Instead of *for*, we normally use *because*, *as* or *since*.

4

! It was very kind for you to invite me.

✓ It was very kind of you to invite me.

When we use an *it*-sentence to comment on someone's behaviour, the adjective is followed by an *of*-phrase:

	ADJECTIVE	+	OF-PHRASE	+	TO-CLAUSE
It was	good		of your sister		to wait for us.
It was	rude		of them		not to reply.

Note also the related *how*-pattern: 'How thoughtless + of him + not to tell us where he was going.'

5

× The food was much too rich to eat for me.

✓ The food was much too rich for me to eat.

× The flat isn't big enough to live in for the six of us.

✓ The flat isn't big enough for the six of us to live in.

A *for*-phrase comes before a *to*-infinitive, not after it. The *for*-phrase contains the subject of the *to*-infinitive and a subject normally comes before its verb.

	ADJECTIVE	+	(FOR-PHRASE)	+	TO-INFINITIVE
The address was	easy		for me		to remember.
The letters are	ready		for you		to post.

- 6
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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× For the last three weeks the shop is closed.</li> <li>× He is working for Shell for over 12 years.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ For the last three weeks the shop has been closed.</li> <li>✓ He has been working for Shell for over 12 years.</li> </ul> |
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When a **for**-phrase refers to a period of time which begins in the past and continues up to *now* (the moment of speaking), we use the present perfect tense.

⇒ 619.1

- 7
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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× For the last few years, many nuclear weapons have been destroyed.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ During the last few years, many nuclear weapons have been destroyed.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

When we refer to the period within which something takes place, we use **during** or **over**. A time phrase beginning with **for** tells us how long an action or state continues: 'The two countries were fighting each other **for** almost five years.' '**For** the last two weeks the telephone has been out of order.'

- 8
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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× On Saturday morning I usually go for shopping.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ On Saturday morning I usually go shopping.</li> </ul> |
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⇒ 331.3

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× At half-time, the score was 3-1 for Brazil.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ At half-time, the score was 3-1 to Brazil.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

Before the name of the player or team that is winning, we use **to**.

## forbid

313

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× The government has forbidden to drivers to enter the city centre during certain hours.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The government has forbidden drivers to enter the city centre during certain hours.</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

We **forbid** someone **to do** something (NOT **to** someone).

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× My mother had forbidden me from going near the river.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ My mother had forbidden me to go near the river.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

We **forbid** someone **to do** something (NOT **from doing** something).

## force

314

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| × Her parents forced her get married. | ✓ Her parents forced her to get married. |
|---------------------------------------|--|

We **make** someone **do** something, but we **force** someone **to do** something.

⇒ 839.1

## for ever

315

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| × He is for ever asking me to lend him more money. | ✓ He is forever asking me to lend him more money. |
|--|---|

When we want to say 'for always', we can use either **for ever** or **forever**: 'This time I intend to stop smoking **forever/for ever**.'

When we want to say 'continually', we use **forever**.

## forget

316

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 × They have forgot what it is like to be young. | ✓ They have forgotten what it is like to be young. |
|---|--|

**Forget** (infinitive), **forgot** (past simple), **forgotten** (past participle).

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| 2 × Don't forget buying some milk while you are out. | ✓ Don't forget to buy some milk while you are out. |
|--|--|

We use an **-ing** form after **forget** when we are talking about something which has already happened: 'I shall never **forget seeing** our baby born.'

When we are talking about something which has not yet happened, we use a **to**-infinitive: 'If you **forget to write**, I'll be very disappointed.'

## forgive

317

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| × My father never forgived her. | ✓ My father never forgave her. |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|

**Forgive** (infinitive), **forgave** (past simple), **forgiven** (past participle).

## fractions

318

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 × Two thirds of the money were spent on laboratory equipment. | ✓ Two thirds of the money was spent on laboratory equipment. |
|---|--|

The verb agrees with the noun in the **of**-phrase. Compare: 'A quarter of the

forest *has* been destroyed.' 'A quarter of the trees *have* been cut down.'  
 ⇒ 44.12

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|--|---|
| <p>2</p> <p>× I bought two litres of milk and one quarter of a pound of cheese.</p> <p>× The film lasted one and one half hours.</p> | <p>✓ I bought two litres of milk and a quarter of a pound of cheese.</p> <p>✓ The film lasted one and a half hours.</p> |
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Before **quarter, half, eighth**, etc., we normally use **a/an** (NOT *one*):  
 'an hour and **a quarter**', 'one and **a quarter** hours', 'two and **a half** kilometres'.

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|---|---|
| <p>3</p> <p>× The flight takes about one and a half hour.</p> | <p>✓ The flight takes about one and a half hours.</p> |
|---|---|

After 'one and *a half*', 'two and *a quarter*', etc., the noun is plural.

## frighten

319

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>× I was too frighten to move.</p> | <p>✓ I was too frightened to move.</p> |
|---|--|

⇒ 14.1

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|--|---|
| <p>2</p> <p>× When I heard the scream, I frightened.</p> | <p>✓ When I heard the scream, I was frightened.</p> |
|--|---|

**Frighten** (to make someone feel afraid) is a transitive verb and must have an object, e.g. 'The thought of growing old **frightens** some people.' (⇒ 838.1)  
 When there is no object, we use **be/feel frightened** or **be/feel afraid**.

## from

320

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|---|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>× Our holiday begins from the first day after the examinations.</p> | <p>✓ Our holiday begins on the first day after the examinations.</p> |
|---|--|

Something happens **on** a particular day. ⇒ 87.2

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|---|---|
| <p>2</p> <p>× I have been working for Brunei Shell from 1987.</p> | <p>✓ I have been working for Brunei Shell since 1987.</p> |
|---|---|

To refer to a period of time which begins in the past and continues up to 'now' (the moment of speaking), we use **since**.

- 3
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|---|---|
| × It looked as if the burns had been made from a cigarette. | ✓ It looked as if the burns had been made with a cigarette. |
|---|---|

When we mention the thing that is used to do something, we use a **with**-phrase. Compare: 'He used a screwdriver to open the drawer.' 'He opened the drawer with a screwdriver.' 'The drawer was opened with a screwdriver.'

- 4
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|--|--|
| × I've just finished reading a novel from Norman Mailer. | ✓ I've just finished reading a novel by Norman Mailer. |
|--|--|

Something is made/written/etc. **by** a certain person.

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| × The blouse was from silk and was very expensive. | ✓ The blouse was made of silk and was very expensive. |
|--|---|

Something is **made of** a particular material, NOT **from**.

⇒ 475

## fruit

321

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| × During the next two weeks I ate nothing but fruits. | ✓ During the next two weeks I ate nothing but fruit. |
|---|--|

When **fruit** refers to fruit in general, it is an uncountable noun and does not have a plural form: '**fruit** and vegetables', 'a bowl of **fruit**'.

We use **fruit** as a countable noun when we wish to refer to a particular type of fruit: 'Is cucumber **a fruit** or a vegetable?' 'Pineapples and mangoes are both tropical **fruits**.'

## full

322

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| × The suitcase was full with expensive-looking watches. | ✓ The suitcase was full of expensive-looking watches. |
|---|---|

**Full** is normally followed by **of**: 'The office was **full of** broken furniture.' 'The letter was **full of** bad news.'

**Full (up) with** is used mainly in informal styles to mean 'completely filled': 'The suitcase is already **full up with** the children's clothes.'

⇒ 21

## fun

323

- 1
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| × I had never realized that sailing could be such a good fun. | ✓ I had never realized that sailing could be such good fun. |
|---|---|

**Fun** is an uncountable noun and is not used with **a/an**.

⇒ 2.1

- 2
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|---|---|
| × All the groom's friends were making fun at him. | ✓ All the groom's friends were making fun of him. |
|---|---|

We *laugh at* someone but *make fun of* them.

## furniture

324

- 1
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| × Because of all the furnitures, it was difficult to move. | ✓ Because of all the furniture, it was difficult to move. |
|--|---|

**Furniture** is an uncountable noun and does not have a plural form.

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|--|---|
| × The landlord provided a new furniture. | ✓ The landlord provided (some) new furniture. |
|--|---|

**Furniture** is not used with *a/an*. However, we can say 'a piece of new furniture'.

⇒ 2.1-2

## generally

325

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| × Her lessons generally are very interesting. | ✓ Her lessons are generally very interesting. |
|---|---|

⇒ 29.2

## get

326

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| × It wasn't worth getting the watch repair. | ✓ It wasn't worth getting the watch repaired. |
|---|---|

⇒ 351.7

## give

327

- 1
- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| × I'd like you to give my money back. | ✓ I'd like you to give me my money back. |
|---------------------------------------|--|

**Give** normally has two objects, a direct object and an indirect object.

⇒ 838.5

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|---|---|
| × I shan't forget all the help you gave for me. | ✓ I shan't forget all the help you gave me. |
|---|---|

We **give** something **to** someone, NOT **for** someone. Note that when the object of **give** is used in a relative clause, **to** is often omitted before the indirect object ('me'): 'The answer that she **gave** (to) me was incorrect.'

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| <b>3</b> | × I gave to the man all the money that was in my pocket. | ✓ I gave the man all the money that was in my pocket. |
|----------|--|---|

⇒ 387.1

## glad 328

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|---|---|
| × It was wonderful to see so many glad faces. | ✓ It was wonderful to see so many happy/cheerful faces. |
|---|---|

**Glad** is not normally used in front of a noun. ⇒ 16.1

## glass 329

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|--|--|
| × The driver had just a few scratches from the broken glasses. | ✓ The driver had just a few scratches from the broken glass. |
|--|--|

When it means 'the material that is used to make windows, bottles, etc', **glass** is an uncountable noun and does not have a plural form. Compare: 'two glasses of orange juice', 'a set of wine glasses', 'I can't see without my glasses'.

## glasses 330

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|----------|---|---|
| <b>1</b> | × She asked me if I had always worn such a thick glasses. | ✓ She asked me if I had always worn such thick glasses. |
|----------|---|---|

**Glasses, sunglasses** and **spectacles** are plural nouns. ⇒ 603

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|----------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>2</b> | × When did you start wearing a pair of glasses? | ✓ When did you start wearing glasses? |
|----------|---|---------------------------------------|

⇒ 567.4

## go 331

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|----------|---|---|
| <b>1</b> | × I have gone to Scotland but I have never gone to Wales.<br>× I haven't gone to a party since last year. | ✓ I have been to Scotland but I have never been to Wales.<br>✓ I haven't been to a party since last year. |
|----------|---|---|

When we mean that someone has gone somewhere and come back, we use **been**. When we mean that someone has gone somewhere but has not come back, we use **gone**. Compare: 'Lisa has **gone** to Frankfurt.' (= she has not come back yet) 'Lisa has **been** to Frankfurt.' (= she went and came back)

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|--|--|
| × Last December we went to ski in the French Alps. | ✓ Last December we went skiing in the French Alps. |
|--|--|

When we are talking about a sport or pastime, we use **go + -ing**: 'They have invited me to **go fishing/sailing/swimming** with them tomorrow.' Compare: 'He's **gone to see** if the photographs are ready.' In this sentence, 'to see' introduces a clause of purpose.

- 3
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|--|--|
| × At one time I used to go for swimming every morning. | ✓ At one time I used to go swimming every morning. |
| × On Saturday morning I usually go for shopping.       | ✓ On Saturday morning I usually go shopping.       |

We **go swimming/go shopping, etc.** (WITHOUT **for**). Compare: 'He's **gone for a swim.**' 'Let's **go for a jog.**'

- 4
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|---|---|
| × Last August I went with some friends camping. | ✓ Last August I went camping with some friends. |
|---|---|

⇒ 29.8

- 5
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|---|---|
| × After my parents had went, I was all alone. | ✓ After my parents had gone, I was all alone. |
|---|---|

**Go** (infinitive), **went** (past simple), **gone** (past participle).

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|---|--|
| × After the short stories, she went on writing her first novel. | ✓ After the short stories, she went on to write her first novel. |
|---|--|

When someone continues what they were doing before, they **go on doing** it: 'How much longer do you intend to **go on working** tonight?'

When there is a change of activity or topic, **go on** is followed by a **to**-infinitive: 'Having introduced herself, she **went on to explain** why she had come.'

## going to

333

× If you speak to the manager, I'm sure he is going to help you.

✓ If you speak to the manager, I'm sure he will help you.

If we say that someone is **going to** do something, we can see that the action is about to happen ('Careful! You're **going to** spill your coffee.') or we know that they intend to do it ('Helen is **going to** be a doctor.')

When we say what we think or expect will happen, we normally use **will** + bare infinitive: 'If you leave now, you'll **be** back by six.' 'Do you think that Peter **will get** there in time?'  
⇒ 163.1–3

2

× Don't worry! I'm going to be there as soon as I can.

✓ Don't worry! I'll be there as soon as I can.

We use **going to** for a future action that has been decided before the moment of speaking. If the action is decided at the moment of speaking, we use **will**. Compare the use of **going to** and **will** in the following dialogue:

Manager: You know that I'm **going to see** Sinclair on Wednesday, don't you?

Secretary: But on Wednesday you have a meeting in London.

Manager: Oh, dear. In that case, I'll **see** Sinclair on Thursday.

The decision to see Sinclair on Wednesday has been made before the moment of speaking and so the speaker uses **going to**. The decision to see Sinclair on Thursday is made at the moment of speaking and so the speaker uses **will**.

⇒ 873.5

3

× The course is going to start on January 20th.

✓ The course starts on January 20th.

✓ The course will start on January 20th.

When we refer to a scheduled future event, we normally use the present simple tense, NOT **going to**:

Our coach **leaves** at half past five.

The concert **begins** at seven o'clock.

Tina's party **is** next Saturday.

In formal styles, we often use **will**: 'The coach **will leave** at 5.30 p.m. and all passengers are requested to be punctual.'

## golden

334

× I would never waste my money on a golden ring.

✓ I would never waste my money on a gold ring.

Nowadays, **golden** is rarely used apart from in phrases such as 'a golden

opportunity', 'a golden wedding anniversary', 'a golden rule'. In these phrases, **golden** is used figuratively. When we mean that something is made of gold or is the colour of gold, we use **gold**: 'a gold watch', 'gold paint'.

## good 335

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× I don't speak English very good.</li> <li>× Things did not turn out as good as we had expected.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ I don't speak English very well.</li> <li>✓ Things did not turn out as well as we had expected.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|

**Good** is an adjective. The adverb is **well**. Compare: 'She is **a very good** swimmer.' 'She swims **very well**.'

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|---|---|--|
| 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× It's no good to have a piano if nobody can play it.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ It's no good having a piano if nobody can play it.</li> </ul> |
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The expressions 'it is no good' and 'it is not much good' are followed by an **-ing** form.

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| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× There's no good trying to work if you feel tired.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ It's no good trying to work if you feel tired.</li> </ul> |
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For information about 'there is no' and 'it is no' expressions, ⇨ 786.5.

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|---|--|---|
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× In the market they were busy selling their good.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ In the market they were busy selling their goods.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

**Goods** (= things for sale) is a plural noun.

⇨ 603

## gossip 336

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|---|---|--|
| × | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There had been a lot of gossips about the company going bankrupt.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ There had been a lot of gossip about the company going bankrupt.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|--|

When **gossip** means 'informal reports about someone, often unkind and not based on fact', it is an uncountable noun and does not have a plural form.

## got 337

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× I got two sisters and one brother.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ I have two sisters and one brother.</li> <li>✓ I've got two sisters and one brother.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|

When we mean 'have', we use **have** or **have got**, but not **got**. Note that **have got** is far more common in British English than in American English.

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| ! They had got a house in London and a flat in Brighton. | ✓ They had a house in London and a flat in Brighton. |
|--|--|

When talking about the past, we normally use **have**, NOT **have got**.

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|--|--|
| × This year we have got two English lessons every day. | ✓ This year we have two English lessons every day. |
|--|--|

When talking about something that happens repeatedly, we normally use **have**, NOT **have got**.

## government

338

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| × British government should make sure that men and women are given the same opportunities. | ✓ The British government should make sure that men and women are given the same opportunities. |
|--|--|

When **government** refers to the group of people who govern a particular country, it is a countable noun. The singular form requires a determiner. Compare the uncountable usage: '**Government** is difficult when there is only a small majority.' 'In several countries, we have seen a swing to democratic **government**.'

⇒ 529.4

## grass

339

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|---|---|
| × The rain had made the grasses very wet. | ✓ The rain had made the grass very wet. |
|---|---|

**Grass** is usually an uncountable noun and does not have a plural form: 'She was sitting on the **grass**.' We use **grass** as a countable noun to refer to a particular type of grass: 'The taller **grasses** make attractive arrangements.'

⇒ 529.2

## greenery

340

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| × Surrounded by greeneries, the school looks very attractive. | ✓ Surrounded by greenery, the school looks very attractive. |
|---|---|

**Greenery** is an uncountable noun and does not have a plural form.

## ground

341

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|--|---|
| × The headmaster showed us around the school ground. | ✓ The headmaster showed us around the school grounds. |
|--|---|

To refer to the area of land which surrounds a building, we use the plural form **grounds**: 'The house stands in six acres of **grounds**.'

2

× On what **ground** has the film been banned?

✓ On what **grounds** has the film been banned?

When we talk about the reason/s for doing something, we normally use the plural form **grounds**:

She was given early retirement on medical **grounds**.

They have no real **grounds** for suspecting him.

We accepted their offer on the **grounds** that something is better than nothing.

## grow up

342

× Children should be **grown up** to respect nature.

✓ Children should be brought up to respect nature.

**Grow up** is an intransitive verb: 'I **grew up** in a small town near Dresden.' The transitive equivalent is **bring up**: 'My parents **brought me up** to believe that money isn't everything.' 'We **brought up** three children on just thirty pounds a week.'

## hair

343

× This shampoo is ideal for people with dry **hairs**.

✓ This shampoo is ideal for people with dry hair.

When **hair** means 'the mass of hair which grows on a person's head', it is an uncountable noun: 'He's gone to have his **hair** cut.' 'She doesn't like men with greasy **hair**.' Compare: 'Turn round and I'll brush the **hairs** off your jacket.'

⇒ 529.2

## half

344

1

× Use one **capful** to **half bowl** of water.

✓ Use one **capful** to **half a bowl** of water.

Between **half** and the following noun, there is normally a determiner (*a/an, the, my, etc.*):

It takes me **half an** hour to get to work.

He spends **half his** time in bed.

2

× Last year there were so many apples that we had to give the **half** of them away.

✓ Last year there were so many apples that we had to give **half** of them away.