

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-PHASE	+	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-PHASE)	+	TO-INFINITIVE
The address was	easy		for me		to remember.
The letters are	ready		for you		to post.

- 6
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|---|---|
| <p>× For the last three weeks the shop is closed.</p> <p>× He is working for Shell for over 12 years.</p> | <p>✓ For the last three weeks the shop has been closed.</p> <p>✓ He has been working for Shell for over 12 years.</p> |
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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

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| <p>× For the last few years, many nuclear weapons have been destroyed.</p> | <p>✓ During the last few years, many nuclear weapons have been destroyed.</p> |
|--|---|

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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|---|---|
| <p>× On Saturday morning I usually go for shopping.</p> | <p>✓ On Saturday morning I usually go shopping.</p> |
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⇒ 331.3

- 9
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| <p>× At half-time, the score was 3-1 for Brazil.</p> | <p>✓ At half-time, the score was 3-1 to Brazil.</p> |
|--|---|

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

forbid

313

- 1
- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>× The government has forbidden to drivers to enter the city centre during certain hours.</p> | <p>✓ The government has forbidden drivers to enter the city centre during certain hours.</p> |
|---|--|

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

- 2
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|--|---|
| <p>× My mother had forbidden me from going near the river.</p> | <p>✓ My mother had forbidden me to go near the river.</p> |
|--|---|

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

force

314

× 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).

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

2

- × I bought two litres of milk and one quarter of a pound of cheese.
- × The film lasted one and one half hours.

- ✓ I bought two litres of milk and a quarter of a pound of cheese.
- ✓ The film lasted one and a half hours.

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'.

3

- × The flight takes about one and a half hour.

- ✓ The flight takes about one and a half hours.

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

frighten

319

1

- × I was too frighten to move.

- ✓ I was too frightened to move.

⇒ 14.1

2

- × When I heard the scream, I frightened.

- ✓ When I heard the scream, I was frightened.

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

1

- × Our holiday begins from the first day after the examinations.

- ✓ Our holiday begins on the first day after the examinations.

Something happens **on** a particular day.

⇒ 87.2

2

- × I have been working for Brunei Shell from 1987.

- ✓ I have been working for Brunei Shell since 1987.

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

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| <p>3</p> <p>× It looked as if the burns had been made from a cigarette.</p> | <p>✓ It looked as if the burns had been made with a cigarette.</p> |
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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.'

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

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

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| <p>5</p> <p>× The blouse was from silk and was very expensive.</p> | <p>✓ The blouse was made of silk and was very expensive.</p> |
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Something is **made of** a particular material, NOT **from**.

⇒ 475

fruit

321

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

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>× The suitcase was full with expensive-looking watches.</p> | <p>✓ The suitcase was full of expensive-looking watches.</p> |
|--|--|

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

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

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.

- 2
- | | |
|--|---|
| × 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

- 2
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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.'

3

× 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

× 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

× 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

1

× 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

2

× When did you start wearing a pair of glasses?

✓ When did you start wearing glasses?

⇒ 567.4

go

331

1

× I have gone to Scotland but I have never gone to Wales.

✓ I have been to Scotland but I have never been to Wales.

× I haven't gone to a party since last year.

✓ 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)

2

× 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

× 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

× Last August I went with some friends camping.

✓ Last August I went camping with some friends.

⇒ 29.8

5

× 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).

go on

332

× 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 | × I don't speak English very good.
× Things did not turn out as good as we had expected. | ✓ I don't speak English very well.
✓ Things did not turn out as well as we had expected. |
|---|---|---|

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

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|---|---|--|
| 2 | × It's no good to have a piano if nobody can play it. | ✓ It's no good having a piano if nobody can play it. |
|---|---|--|

The expressions 'it is no good' and 'it is not much good' are followed by an **-ing** form.

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| 3 | × There's no good trying to work if you feel tired. | ✓ It's no good trying to work if you feel tired. |
|---|---|--|

For information about 'there is no' and 'it is no' expressions, ➡ 786.5.

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| 4 | × In the market they were busy selling their good. | ✓ In the market they were busy selling their goods. |
|---|--|---|

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

➡ 603

gossip

336

- | | |
|---|--|
| × There had been a lot of gossips about the company going bankrupt. | ✓ There had been a lot of gossip about the company going bankrupt. |
|---|--|

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 | × I got two sisters and one brother. | ✓ I have two sisters and one brother.
✓ I've got two sisters and one brother. |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|

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.

2

! 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**.

3

× 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

× 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

1

× 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.