

## Grammar Questions

The following grammar questions are to be asked and revised in exactly the same way as any other questions in the Method. They act as a complete and rapid revision of all the grammar in Stages 5 and 6.

### Stage 5

- 1) What's the difference between these two sentences: "I must study" and "I should study"?  
The difference between those two sentences is that "I must study" means that I have no alternative, whereas "I should study" means I have alternatives but that studying is the right thing for me to do.
- 2) What can we use instead of "would be able" in conditional sentences? Give me an example.  
We can use "could" instead of "would be able" in conditional sentences. For example, "If I was a bird, I could fly".
- 3) What's the difference between "still" and "yet"?  
The difference between "still" and "yet" is that we use "still" for something that is in progress at the moment, whereas we use "yet" for something that has not begun or happened. We generally use "still" in positive sentences, whereas we generally use "yet" in questions and negative sentences.
- 4) What are the two ways of forming the 2nd conditional with the verb "to be"?  
The two ways of forming the 2nd conditional with the verb "to be" are "if I was" and "if I were".
- 5) What's the difference between "for" and "since"? Give me some examples.  
The difference between "for" and "since" is that we use the word "for" when we say a period of time, whereas we use the word "since" when we say the time at which a period began. For example, "for half an hour"; "for two weeks"; "since six o'clock"; "since last June".
- 6) When do we use the past continuous? Give me an example.  
We use the past continuous for an action that was in progress at a particular time in the past. For example, "I was speaking English at this time yesterday".

- 7) What is the most common use of the past continuous? Give me an example. The most common use of the past continuous is to say that an action was in progress when another action happened. For example, "I was cooking lunch when she arrived".
- 8) What does the active voice communicate? The active voice communicates that the subject does the action.
- 9) What does the passive voice communicate? The passive voice communicates that the subject receives the action.
- 10) How do we form the passive voice? We form the passive voice with the verb "to be" and a past participle.
- 11) Change this sentence into the passive voice: "We are going to write the email". "The email is going to be written by us".
- 12) What are the two contracted forms of "you are not"? The two contracted forms of "you are not" are "you aren't" and "you're not".
- 13) What three things can the words "in spite of" and "despite" be followed by? Give me an example of each. "In spite of" and "despite" can be followed by a noun, or "-ing", or "the fact that ...". For example, "In spite of her illness, she went to work"; "Despite being ill, she went to work"; "In spite of the fact that she was ill, she went to work".
- 14) When do we use a reflexive pronoun? Give me an example. We use a reflexive pronoun when the subject and the object are the same person or thing. For example, "I looked at myself in the mirror".
- 15) What are the reflexive pronouns? The reflexive pronouns are "myself", "yourself", "himself", "herself", "itself", "oneself", "ourselves", "yourselves", and "themselves".
- 16) What is the most common way to communicate purpose in English? Give me an example. The most common way to communicate purpose in English is by using the infinitive with "to". For example, "I went to the hospital to see a doctor".

17) What's the difference between "to point at" and "to point out"?

The difference between "to point at" and "to point out" is that we use "to point at" for the action of pointing the finger at an object, whereas "to point out" means to indicate something among different things.

18) What do the words "may" and "might" express? The words "may" and "might" express the idea of "perhaps".

19) What's the difference between "may" and "might"?

The difference between "may" and "might" is that we cannot use "may" in the 2nd conditional.

20) What does it mean when we add the word "back" to a verb? Give me some examples.

When we add the word "back" to a verb it means "to return". For example, "give back", "go back", "pay back" etc.

21) When do we use the past perfect? Give me an example.

We use the past perfect when we are thinking about time before and up to another point in the past. For example, "Mary could not enter her flat yesterday because she had lost her key".

22) Give me an example of the word "own" after a possessive adjective.

"This is my own book".

23) Where do the words "as well", "too" and "also" usually go?

The words "as well" and "too" go at the end of the sentence, but the word "also" usually goes after the first auxiliary verb.

24) Give me an example of "also" when there is no auxiliary verb.

I love coffee and I also love tea.

25) When do we use the future continuous? Give me an example.

We use the future continuous for an action that will be in progress at a particular time in the future. For example, "I will be working at this time tomorrow".

26) What's the difference between "allow" and "let"? Give me an example of each.

The difference between "allow" and "let" is that "allow" has the infinitive with "to" after it, whereas "let" has the infinitive without "to" after it. For example, "The doctor allowed me to change my appointment" and "The doctor let me change my appointment".

27) What's the most common way to speak about our habits? Give me an example.

The most common way to speak about our habits is to use the present simple or past simple. For example, "I play football every weekend"; "I always studied hard before exams at university".

28) What's the difference between "travel" and "journey"?

The difference between "travel" and "journey" is that we generally use "travel" as a verb and "journey" as a noun.

29) What's the difference between the words "remember" and "remind"?

The difference between the words "remember" and "remind" is that we remember something ourselves, without help, whereas, if we forget something, somebody reminds us. In other words, they remember for us.

30) What's the difference between "to" and "at"? Give me an example of each.

The difference between "to" and "at" is that we generally use "to" when we are moving in the direction of something, or somewhere, and "at" when we are there. For example, "I'm going to the table. Now, I'm at the table".

31) When do we use the 3rd conditional? Give me an example.

We use the 3rd conditional when we are imagining something in the past that did not really happen. For example, "If I had not come to school last week, I would have stayed at home".

32) In the 3rd conditional, what do we put after the word "would"? Give me some examples.

In the 3rd conditional, we put the word "have" and the past participle after the word "would". For example, "he would have slept"; "she would have written"; "they would have eaten".

33) Give me an example of an adverb formed from an adjective.

An example of an adverb formed from an adjective is "badly".

34) How do we form the possessive case of a plural noun which already ends in "s"? Give me an example.

We form the possessive case of a plural noun which already ends in "s" just by adding an apostrophe, but no "s". For example, "The girls' coats".

## **Stage 6**

35) When do we use the words "they", "them" etc. to talk about just one person? Give me an example.

We use the words "they", "them" etc. to talk about just one person when we don't know if the person is a man or woman. For example, "There is somebody at the door. Go and see what they want".

36) What's the grammatical difference between "would rather" and "would prefer"? Give me an example of each.

The grammatical difference between "would rather" and "would prefer" is that we put the infinitive without "to" after "would rather", whereas we put the infinitive with "to" after "would prefer". For example, "I would rather drink tea" and "I would prefer to drink tea".

37) What are two common uses of the future simple? Give me an example of each.

Two common uses of the future simple are to communicate that we have just this moment decided to do something, and to make a prediction. For example, "Sorry I forgot to bring the money for you; I'll bring it tomorrow, I promise!" and "I can't remember what she looks like but I'm sure I'll recognize her when I see her".

38) What are two common uses of "to be going to"? Give me an example of each, please.

Two common uses of "to be going to" are to make a prediction using information we already have, and to communicate a future intention. For example, "Be careful; that wine glass is going to fall off the table!" and "I'm going to go to the cinema next Saturday".

39) When do we use the auxiliary verb "do" in a positive sentence with the present simple tense?

We use the auxiliary verb "do" in a positive sentence with the present simple tense when we want to be emphatic.

40) When do we usually use the emphatic "do"? Give me an example.

We usually use the emphatic "do" when we want to deny something that someone has said because we know it is not true. For example, if somebody says "You don't eat enough vegetables", I can reply "Yes I do eat enough vegetables!"

41) What is another use of the emphatic "do"? Give me an example.

Another use of the emphatic "do" is in an exclamation. For example, "I do hate noisy children".

42) How do we form the future perfect? We form the future perfect with the verb "to have" and a past participle.

43) When do we use the future perfect? Give me an example.

We use the future perfect when we are thinking about time before and up to a point in the future. For example, "When you arrive at my house, I'll have cooked dinner".

44) Give me an example of direct speech. Mr Brown said "I like warm weather".

45) Give me an example of indirect speech. Mr Brown said that he liked warm weather.

46) What do we do with the tenses when we change direct speech into indirect speech? Give me an example. When we change direct speech into indirect speech, we generally move the verb into the past. For example: The teacher said "The room is large". The teacher said that the room was large.

47) What do we do if a verb is already in the past? If a verb is already in the past, it often remains unchanged, but sometimes we put it further into the past.

48) What do we do with the word "will" when we change direct speech into indirect speech? Give me an example. When we change direct speech into indirect speech, we change the word "will" to "would". For example: She said that John would go to London next year.

49) What's the difference between the words "what" and "whatever"? Give me an example of "whatever". The difference between the words "what" and "whatever" is that we use the word "what" in a limited sense, whereas we use the word "whatever" in a more unlimited sense. For example, "If I could buy whatever I wanted, I'd buy ...".

50) Tell me four common ways in which we can make a suggestion. Four common ways in which we can make a suggestion are:  
Shall we wait for him?  
Let's wait for him.  
How (or What) about waiting for him?  
Why don't we wait for him?

**51) How do we make the imperative in English? Give me some examples.**

We make the imperative in English by using the infinitive without "to". For example, "Give me the book!"; "Do it now!"; "Have a nice day!"

**52) How do we make a negative imperative? Give me some examples.**

We make a negative imperative by putting the word "don't" before the infinitive. For example, "Don't give him the book!"; "Don't be late!"; "Don't forget to email me!"

**53) How do we form the perfect continuous tenses? Give me an example.**

We form the perfect continuous tenses by using the verb "have", the word "been", and the present participle of the main verb. For example, "I have been studying for two hours".

**54) When do we use the present perfect continuous? Give me an example.**

We use the present perfect continuous to say how long an action has been in progress so far. For example, "I have been living in this house for six months so far"

**55) When do we use the past perfect continuous? Give me an example.**

We use the past perfect continuous to communicate the duration of an action up to a particular point in the past. For example, "I had been living in this house for one month when I bought my new bed".

**56) When do we use the future perfect continuous? Give me an example.**

We use the future perfect continuous to communicate the duration of an action up to a particular point in the future. For example, "I will have been living in this house for eight months at the end of this year".

**57) When do we use a tail question?**

We use a tail question when we believe something is true, and we want somebody to confirm that we are right.

**58) How do we form a tail question? Give me an example.**

We form a tail question by repeating the first auxiliary verb from the main part of the sentence, and putting it in question form. For example, "He is going to go out tonight, isn't he?"

59) When there is no auxiliary verb in the main part of the sentence, which verb do we use in the tail question? Give me an example.

When there is no auxiliary verb in the main part of the sentence, we use "do" in the tail question. For example, "They come every Thursday, don't they?"

60) What does the structure "to have something done" communicate? Give me an example.

The structure "to have something done" communicates that we don't do the action ourselves, but that somebody else does it for us. For example, "I don't cut my hair myself; I have my hair cut by a hairdresser".

61) What's the most important difference between "tell" and "say"? Give me an example.

The most important difference between "tell" and "say" is that after "tell" we indicate the person we are speaking to, but after "say" we usually do not. For example: She told him that it was important. She said it was important.

62) After the verb "say", how is it possible to indicate the person we are speaking to?

After the verb "say", it is possible to indicate the person we are speaking to by using the word "to".

63) For direct speech, which verb do we normally use: "say" or "tell"? Give me an example.

For direct speech, we normally use the verb "say". For example: She said "I'm hungry".

64) What are the two basic types of auxiliary verb in English?

The two basic types of auxiliary verb in English are primary auxiliaries and modal auxiliaries.

65) What are the primary auxiliaries?

The primary auxiliaries are the verbs "be", "have" and "do".

66) When do we use the auxiliary "be"? Give me an example.

We use the auxiliary "be" to make the continuous tenses and the passive voice. For example, "I am speaking English now" and "This book was printed in England".

67) When do we use the auxiliary "have"? Give me an example.

We use the auxiliary "have" for the perfect tenses. For example, "He has gone to Scotland".



68) When do we use the auxiliary "do"? Give me an example.

We use the auxiliary "do" for the present simple and past simple. For example, "I don't speak Spanish" and "Did she eat the pasta?"

69) What are the ten common modals?

The ten common modals are "can", "could", "will", "would", "may", "might", "shall", "should", "must" and "ought".

70) What do we put after a modal? Give me an example.

We put the infinitive without "to" after a modal. For example, "I must send this email today".

71) Which modal is the only exception to this rule? Give me an example.

"Ought" is the only exception to this rule. For example, "I ought to see a doctor".

72) Give me a sentence containing the words "by the time".

For example, "By the time she gets here, dinner will be ready".

73) What does "by the time" mean in that sentence?

"By the time" in that sentence means at some point between now and when she gets here.

74) What's the difference between the words "older" and "elder"?

The difference between the words "older" and "elder" is that we generally use the word "elder" when speaking about people in the same family, and we cannot say "elder than"

75) When do we double the final consonant of an adjective in forming its comparative and its superlative? Give me an example.

We double the final consonant of an adjective in forming its comparative and its superlative when it ends in a single consonant preceded by a single vowel. For example, "thin – thinner than – the thinnest".

76) What happens when an adjective ends in a consonant plus "y"? Give me an example.

When an adjective ends in a consonant plus "y", the "y" is changed to "i". For example, "lucky – luckier than – the luckiest".