

## 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 7 and 8.

### Stage 7

- 1) When the past tense of a regular verb ends in "ded" or "ted", how do we pronounce the final sound? Give me some examples.

When the past tense of a regular verb ends in "ded" or "ted", we pronounce the final sound "id" /ɪd/. For example, "included", "lasted" etc.

- 2) When the past tense of a regular verb does not end in "ded" or "ted", how do we pronounce the final sound? Give me some examples.

When the past tense of a regular verb does not end in "ded" or "ted", we pronounce the final sound "t" /t/ or "d" /d/. For example, "crossed", "seemed" etc.

- 3) What's the difference between "a few" and "few"?

The difference between "a few" and "few" is that "a few" simply means "not many", whereas "few" often expresses the idea of "not enough" or "fewer than expected".

- 4) What's the difference between "a little" and "little"?

The difference between "a little" and "little" is that "a little" simply means "not much", whereas "little" often expresses the idea of "not enough" or "less than expected".

- 5) When do we use the words "used to", and what does it mean? Give me an example.

We use the words "used to", for a habit or repeated action in the past, especially when the action is now finished. For example, "I used to go to the cinema a lot when I was a child".

- 6) What's the difference between "we're going to go to the theatre" and "we're going to the theatre"?

The difference between "We're going to go to the theatre" and "We're going to the theatre" is that "We're going to go to the theatre" communicates that it is our intention to go, whereas "We're going to the theatre" communicates that the visit has already been arranged; we already have the tickets, for example.

7) How do we make the question form in English? Give me an example.

We make the question form in English by putting the subject after the first auxiliary verb. For example, the statement "She has been eating" becomes "Has she been eating?"

8) For the present simple and the past simple, which auxiliary verb do we use in the question form? Give me an example.

For the present simple and the past simple, we use the auxiliary verb "do" in the question form. For example, "Do you want some tea?"

9) What's a clause? Give me an example.

A clause is any group of words with a subject and a main verb. For example, "The door opened".

10) What's a conjunction? Give me some examples.

A conjunction is a word that joins clauses together to make long sentences. For example, "and", "because", "but", "so" and "if".

11) Give me an example of a sentence that contains two clauses joined together by a conjunction.

For example, "I love chocolate because it tastes so good".

12) What's the difference between a main clause and a dependent clause?

The difference between a main clause and a dependent clause is that a main clause contains the main message of the sentence whereas a dependent clause contains other information.

13) Which is the main clause in this sentence? "If I don't sleep enough, I feel tired."

"I feel tired" is the main clause in that sentence.

14) And which is the dependent clause?

"If I don't sleep enough" is the dependent clause.

15) Which conjunctions cannot start a sentence?

The conjunctions "and", "or" and "but" cannot start a sentence.

16) Give me an example of the construction "make + object + adjective".

"Work makes us tired".

17) Give me an example of the construction "keep + object + adjective".

"Exercise keeps you healthy".

- 18) What is a relative clause? A relative clause is a clause that we use to describe a noun.
- 19) Where do we put a relative clause? We put a relative clause immediately after the noun it describes.
- 20) What's the difference between "who", "which" and "that"? The difference between "who", "which" and "that" is that we use "who" for people, "which" for things and animals, and "that" for people, things and animals.
- 21) Give me a sentence with a relative clause in it. "I know someone who lives in that street". "The film that I saw yesterday was great".
- 22) When do we put the words "so", "neither" or "nor" at the beginning of a sentence? We put the words "so", "neither" or "nor" at the beginning of a sentence when someone makes a statement and we want to reply that the same situation is true for us or somebody else.
- 23) How do we make this kind of short reply? Give me some examples. We make this kind of short reply by using the words "so", "neither", or "nor", and by putting the auxiliary verb before the subject. For example, "I can speak English" "So can I". "I won't go there" "Neither will I".
- 24) If there is no auxiliary verb, which verb do we use? Give me an example. If there is no auxiliary verb, we use "do" in the short reply. For example, "He lives in this building" "So does my sister".
- 25) What is a phrase? Give me an example. A phrase is a collection of words that belong together in a sentence because, together, they form a particular part of the sentence. For example, "at high speed".
- 26) What do we mean by a preparatory "it"? Give me some examples. By a preparatory "it" we mean that we use the word "it" at the beginning of a sentence to prepare us for some information that comes later in the sentence. For example, "It is very difficult to understand what he says"; "Was it usual for him to come here every Sunday?"; "It isn't common to find that kind of bird in this part of the country".
- 27) Why do we use the words "so" and "not" when replying to something that someone has just said? We use the words "so" and "not" when replying to something that someone has just said to avoid repeating the whole sentence.

28) Give me some examples of this use of the word "so".

"Is that right what James said?" –  
"I'm afraid so"; "I hope so"; "I suppose so"; "I think so".

29) Give me some examples of the use of the word "not".

"Is that right what James said?"  
"I'm afraid not"; "I hope not"; "I suppose not".

30) When do we use the word "so" at the beginning of a sentence? Give me an example.

We use the word "so" at the beginning of a sentence when we already know something that someone has just told us. For example, someone says to us "Mr Jones has gone to Australia" and, knowing this fact, we reply "So we've been told".

31) Why do we say "I ate eggs for breakfast today" and not "I have eaten eggs for breakfast today"?

We say "I ate eggs for breakfast today" because we are thinking about what happened at a specific past time – breakfast time. We are not thinking about now.

32) What are some common adverbs of frequency?

Some common adverbs of frequency are: "never", "rarely", "occasionally", "sometimes", "often", "usually" and "always".

33) Where do these adverbs normally go? Give me an example.

These adverbs normally go after the first auxiliary verb. For example, "I have never been to Australia" or "He will always love her".

34) If there is no auxiliary verb, where do these adverbs normally go? Give me an example.

If there is no auxiliary verb, these adverbs normally go directly before the verb. For example, "They rarely go to the theatre" or "Steve usually drinks beer".

35) If the verb is negative, where do these adverbs normally go? Give me an example.

If the verb is negative, these adverbs normally go after the word "not". For example, "He has not often spoken to us" or "I haven't always had long hair".

- 36) Where do adverbs such as "even" and "also" usually go? Give me some examples. Adverbs such as "even" and "also" usually go in the same position as adverbs of frequency. For example, "I have also been reading that book" or "Sophie can speak several languages; she even speaks Chinese".
- 37) What do we do when we change a question from direct into indirect speech? Give me an example. When we change a question from direct into indirect speech, we move the verb one step back into the past, we use "asked" instead of "said", and we do not use the question form or a question mark. For example, "I asked them what they wanted to drink".
- 38) If the question does not contain a question word, what do we use instead? Give me an example. If the question does not contain a question word, we use the word "if" or "whether" instead. For example, "He asked her if (or whether) she spoke English".
- 39) What do we do when we change an imperative from direct into indirect speech? Give me an example. When we change an imperative from direct into indirect speech, we use "told", "commanded" or "ordered", and we use the infinitive without "to" instead of the imperative. For example, "The king commanded him to leave".
- 40) With negative imperatives, what do we do? Give me an example. With negative imperatives, we put "not" before the infinitive. For example, "His mum told him not to get home late".
- 41) What do we do when we change a request from direct into indirect speech? Give me an example. When we change a request from direct into indirect speech, we use "asked", and we can use the same constructions that we use for indirect questions or imperatives. For example, "We asked them if they could show us the way" or "We asked them to show us the way".
- 42) Can we use future tenses in time clauses and conditional clauses? No, we can't use future tenses in time clauses and conditional clauses.

43) What do we use instead? Give me some examples.

We use present tenses instead.

For example, "She is going to buy a house in the countryside when she retires".

"They will call me tomorrow if they have any problems".

44) What words can we use when we want to emphasize the person who does the action in a particular sentence?

When we want to emphasize the person who does the action in a particular sentence, we can use "myself", "yourself", "himself" etc.

45) What do we call these words?

We call these words emphasizing pronouns.

46) Give me three sentences containing emphasizing pronouns.

"I remember it very clearly, because I gave him the money myself". "People cannot usually repair laptops themselves; they have to take them to a computer repair centre". "She always drove the car herself".

47) What's the difference between these two sentences: "I did the translation myself" and "I did the translation by myself"?

The difference between these two sentences is that "I did the translation myself" emphasizes the fact that I did the translation and not someone else, whereas "I did the translation by myself" means that I did the translation alone, without any help.

48) What are the two types of relative clause?

The two types of relative clause are defining clauses and non-defining clauses.

49) What's the difference between defining clauses and non-defining clauses? Give me an example of each.

The difference between defining clauses and non-defining clauses is that defining clauses identify (or define) which person or thing we are talking about, whereas non-defining clauses do not identify a person or thing, but simply give us extra information about them. For example, "The milk that she bought this morning is in the fridge" and "My new glasses, which I bought yesterday, are really expensive".

50) How is a non-defining clause separated from the main part of the sentence?

A non-defining clause is separated from the main part of the sentence by commas.

51) When can we use the relative pronoun "that" instead of "who" or "which"? Give me an example. We can use the relative pronoun "that" instead of "who" or "which" in defining clauses; we cannot use "that" in non-defining clauses. For example, "The biscuits that I ate were very tasty".

## **Stage 8**

52) When do we add the letters "es" to form the plural of a noun and the third person singular of a verb? Give me an example of each both noun and verb. We add the letters "es" to form the plural of a noun and the third person singular of a verb when a word ends in one of the letters "o", "s", "x", "z", "ch" or "sh". For example, "One potato two potatoes"; "I go you go he goes".

53) What happens when a noun or verb ends in a consonant plus "y"? Give me an example both noun and verb. When a noun or verb ends in a consonant plus "y", the "y" is changed to "i" and then the letters "es" are added. For example, "one lady two ladies"; "I cry you cry he cries".

54) How do we generally form the plural of a noun ending in "f" or "fe"? Give me an example. We generally form the plural of a noun ending in "f" or "fe" by changing the "f" or "fe" to "ves". For example, "leaf leaves".

55) What are three common exceptions to this rule? Three common exceptions to this rule are "chefs", "cliffs", and "roofs".

56) When do we use the present simple to speak about a future action? Give me an example. We use the present simple to speak about a future action when we are talking about timetables or schedules. For example, "My train leaves in fifteen minutes".

57) When do we use the relative pronoun "what"? Give me an example. We use the relative pronoun "what" when we don't mention the thing that the relative clause describes. For example, "She told the waiter what she wanted".

58) When do some people prefer to use the relative pronoun "whom" instead of "who"? Give me an example.

Some people prefer to use the relative pronoun "whom" instead of "who" with formal English, when the relative pronoun is not the subject of the verb that follows. For example, "The gentleman whom he informed was the manager".

59) When we have a preposition at the beginning of a relative clause, can we follow the preposition with the word "who"? Give me an example.

No, when we have a preposition at the beginning of a relative clause, we cannot follow the preposition with "who"; we must use "whom". For example, "We need to contact the customer from whom she took the payment".

60) When do we use the word "whose" at the beginning of a relative clause? Give me an example.

We use the word "whose" at the beginning of a relative clause instead of using a possessive adjective like "my", "your", "his" etc. For example, "The woman whose handbag was stolen is on her way to the police station".

61) What's the difference between a transitive verb and an intransitive verb?

The difference between a transitive verb and an intransitive verb is that a transitive verb has an object, whereas an intransitive verb does not have an object.

62) Give me some sentences containing transitive verbs.

The car hit the wall. The boy cut his thumb. They pushed the table. He opened the door.

63) Give me some sentences containing intransitive verbs.

The sun rises at 6 o'clock. He gets up very early in the morning. People walk very quickly in winter. The door opened.

64) Is the object of a transitive verb always stated? Give me an example.

No, the object of a transitive verb isn't always stated. For example, "He ate quickly".

65) Name some English nouns that are never used in the plural.

Some English nouns that are never used in the plural are "advice", "furniture", "information", "knowledge", "progress" and "news".



- 66) How can we sometimes communicate a plural idea with nouns like this? Give me an example. We can sometimes communicate a plural idea with nouns like this by using expressions such as "pieces of" or "items of". For example, "She gave him two pieces of valuable advice".
- 67) How can we sometimes form a feminine noun from a masculine noun? Give me some examples. We can sometimes form a feminine noun from a masculine noun by adding the letters "ess". For example, "actress", "hostess", "princess".
- 68) What do we do with nouns when we use them in the general sense? Give me an example. When we use nouns in the general sense, we put them in the plural and we do not put an article in front of them. For example, "People go to cinemas to watch films".
- 69) What do we do if a noun doesn't have a plural form? If a noun doesn't have a plural form, we simply use it on its own, also without an article. For example, "Paper comes from wood".
- 70) What are the articles in English? The articles in English are "the", "a" and "an".
- 71) What do we call the word "the"? We call the word "the" the definite article.
- 72) What do we call the words "a" and "an"? We call the words "a" and "an" the indefinite articles.
- 73) What's the difference between "a" and "an"? The difference between "a" and "an" is that we use "a" before a word that starts with a consonant sound, whereas we use "an" before a word that starts with a vowel sound.
- 74) When do we use the indefinite articles "a" and "an"? Give me some examples. We use the indefinite articles "a" and "an" with singular countable nouns. For example, "a table", "an address".
- 75) When do we use the word "one" instead of the indefinite article? We use the word "one" instead of the indefinite article when we want to emphasize the number.
- 76) Give me a sentence with the word "one". "I like one song on that CD but all the others are really boring".

77) What are two common uses of the structure "to be" + infinitive with "to"? Give me an example of each.

Two common uses of the structure "to be" + infinitive with "to" are to communicate an arrangement or an obligation. For example, "The two countries are to begin new discussions on trade". "You are to wait until I get back".

78) When do we use "could" as the past of "can"? Give me an example.

We use "could" as the past of "can" to speak about general abilities. For example, "My grandfather could run very fast when he was a young man".

79) When don't we use "could" as the past of "can"?

We don't use "could" as the past of "can" if we talk about a particular occasion when somebody managed to do something.

80) What do we use instead? Give me an example.

We use "was able", "managed" or "succeeded" instead. For example, "The woman gave the children some money, and so they were able to buy some sweets".

81) What happens when a sentence is negative? Give me an example.

When a sentence is negative, we can use either "couldn't" or "wasn't able". For example, "The woman did not give the children any money, and so they could not buy any sweets".

82) How do we express the idea of past time with the modals "should" and "ought to"? Give me some examples.

We express the idea of past time with the modals "should" and "ought to" by following them with the word "have" and a past participle. For example, "I should have told her, but I forgot". "They ought to have gone to the police after the accident, but they didn't".

83) How do we express a future idea with "should" or "ought to"? Give me some examples.

We express a future idea with "should" or "ought to" by using a word or phrase that expresses future time. For example, "She should do it as soon as possible". "They ought to arrive next week".

84) Tell me one common way of making a request. Give me an example.

One common way of making a request is to say "Can you ...?" or "Could you ...?" For example, "Could you possibly lend me your pen for a second, please?"

85) Which is more polite: "can" or "could"?

"Could" is more polite than "can".

86) Tell me another common way of making a request. Give me an example.

Another common way of making a request is to say "Do you mind ...?" or "Would you mind ...?" For example, "Would you mind passing me that book, please?"

87) Would you say "Do you mind ...?" or "Would you mind ...?" if you wanted to be especially polite?

I would say "Would you mind ...?" if I wanted to be especially polite.

88) Give me an example of need as a modal verb in a question.

"Need he come to work next Saturday?"

89) Give me an example of need as a modal verb in a negative sentence.

"She needn't worry about the exam".

90) What does somebody mean if they say that they needn't have done something?

If somebody says that they needn't have done something, it means that they did it, but it was, in fact, not necessary.

91) Can the verb "dare" be used as both an ordinary verb and a modal verb?

Yes, the verb "dare" can be used as both an ordinary verb and a modal verb.

92) What can we say instead of "He doesn't dare to argue with his boss"?

Instead of saying "He doesn't dare to argue with his boss", we can say "He daren't argue with his boss".

93) When we use a noun for the first time in a conversation, do we use the article "a" or "the"? Give me an example.

When we use a noun for the first time in a conversation, we use the article "a". For example, "My uncle has a dog and a cat".

- 94) If we then refer to the same thing or person again, do we normally use "a" or "the"? Give me an example.      If we then refer to the same thing or person again, we normally use "the". For example, "My uncle has a cat and a dog. The cat is friendly but I'm afraid of the dog".
- 95) In which situation do we use the definite article "the" when we use a noun for the first time? Give me an example.      We use the definite article "the" when we use a noun for the first time only when the speaker and the listener both know who or what is being talked about. For example, "The book which is on the table is yours".
- 96) Which of these sentences is correct: "She is a doctor" or "She is doctor"?      "She is a doctor" is correct.
- 97) What does it mean if we say we are used to something? Give me an example.      If we say we are used to something, it means that it is not strange or uncomfortable for us anymore because we have experience of it. For example, "He's lived on that busy street for many years, so he is used to the traffic noise".
- 98) Why do we put the gerund after the expression "to be used to"? Give me an example.      We put the gerund after the expression "to be used to" because the word "to" is a preposition. For example, "At first it was difficult, but now I'm used to getting up early".
- 99) What is the most important use of the definite article "the"? Give me some examples.      The most important use of the definite article "the" is when we are referring to something specific that is known to both the speaker and the listener. For example, "The DVDs I bought yesterday are great"; "Could you close the window, please?"; "The sky's grey today".
- 100) How can we sometimes use the word "the" to speak about things in general? Give me an example.      We can sometimes use the word "the" to speak about things in general when we are speaking about types of animals or types of things. For example, "The computer is a very useful thing".

101) When do we put the definite article "the" in front of a name? Give me an example. We put the definite article "the" in front of a name when it is the name of a river, sea, ocean or mountain chain. For example, The Nile, The Andes.

102) When do we put the word "the" in front of the name of a country? Give me an example. We put the word "the" in front of the name of a country only if the name is plural in form. For example, The Netherlands.

103) Tell me the difference between these two sentences: "When she writes the letter, she will drink a coffee" and "When she has written the letter, she will drink a coffee". The difference between these two sentences is that "When she writes the letter, she will drink a coffee" means that it is possible that the two actions will happen at the same time or one after the other, whereas "When she has written the letter, she will drink a coffee" means that she will write first and then, after that, drink.

104) What does the verb "wish" communicate? The verb "wish" communicates the idea that we would like things to be different from the way they in fact are now, or were in the past.

105) What must we remember about the tense of any verb that follows "wish"? Give me an example. We must remember that the tense of any verb that follows "wish" is one step back into the past from the time that we are referring to. For example, "Maria wishes she spoke perfect English".