

Elaine Walker
Steve Elsworth

New Edition

Grammar Practice

for
Elementary
Students

with key



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To the student

Grammar Practice for Elementary Students gives short, clear explanations of grammar and provides practice exercises for you to do. The book has three stages with a test at the end of each stage. Stage I is the easiest and Stage III is the most difficult.

There are two ways in which this book can be used:

- i) in class, with help from your teacher;
- ii) at home by yourself.

You can complete Stage I before starting Stage II or you can choose areas of grammar that you need to practise from different parts of the book. Use the Index and the Contents list to find the areas that you want to study. Then read the explanation, do the exercises and check your answers in the Key.

We hope that *Grammar Practice for Elementary Students* helps you to improve your English.

Elaine Walker
Steve Elsworth

Nouns and adjectives

1 *cat, cats*: singular and plural nouns

Plurals: s ending

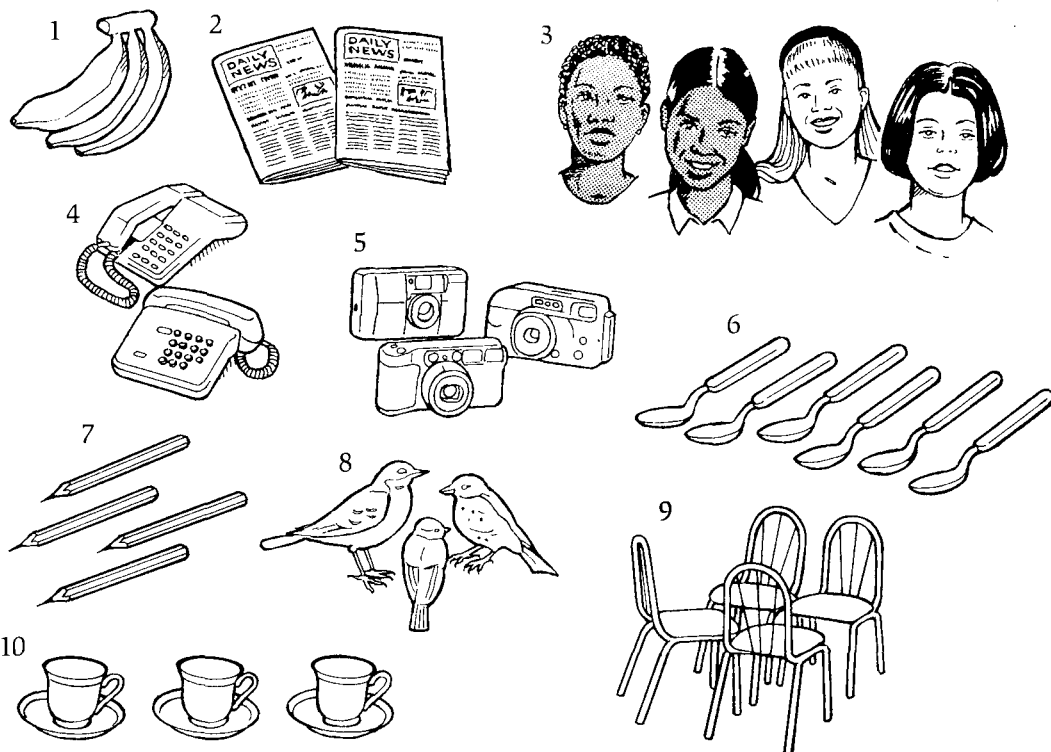
one dog	→	two dogs
one apple	→	two apples
one boy	→	two boys

- To make a singular noun plural, add **s**.

Practice

1a Complete the list, using these nouns and the pictures:

girl	pencil	telephone	bird	cup
camera	banana	newspaper	chair	spoon



1 *three bananas*

2 *two newspapers*

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Plurals: other spellings

one baby	→	two babies
----------	---	------------

- Words ending in consonant + *y*: change *y* → *i* + *es*

a match	→	two matches
a box	→	two boxes
a brush	→	two brushes
a glass	→	two glasses
a bus	→	two buses

- Words ending in *ch*, *x*, *sh*, *ss*, *s*: add *es*.
- We add *es* to a few words ending in *o*:
a potato → *two potatoes*, *a tomato* → *two tomatoes*

Irregular plurals

a man	→	two men
a woman	→	two women
a child	→	two children
a person	→	two people
a foot	→	two feet
a tooth	→	two teeth

Practice

1b Write the plurals.

address	<i>addresses</i>	eye		orange	
mountain	<i>mountains</i>	bag		person	
lorry		box		church	
waitress		school		egg	
secretary		lunch		apple	
sandwich		city		day	
child		hotel		boy	
match		watch		glass	
flower		animal		dish	
vegetable		fly		beach	
family		bus		dress	
dictionary		man		foot	

2 *a, an*: indefinite article

It's **a** present.
It's **a** lovely day.

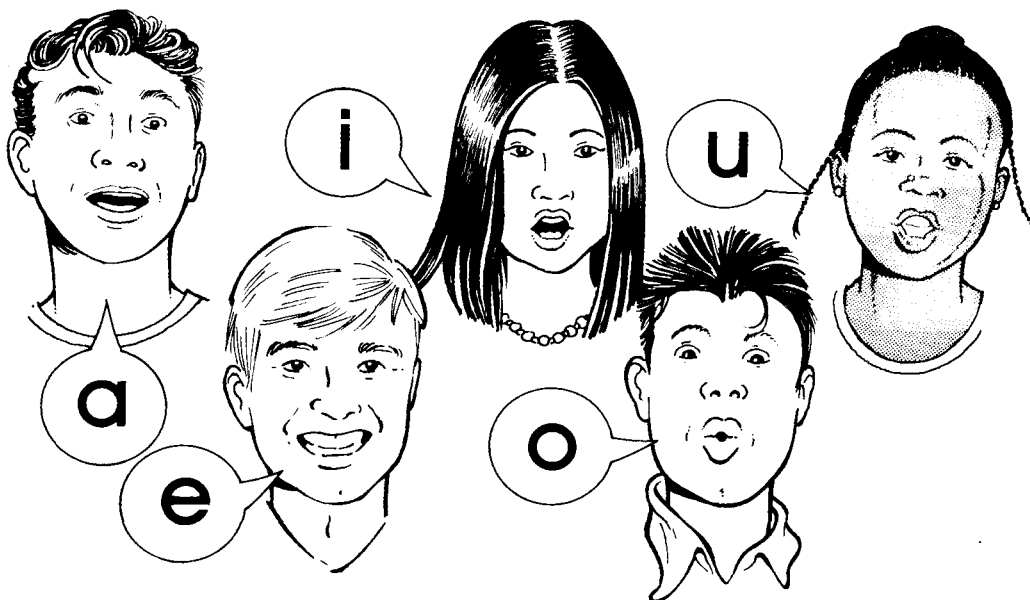
- We use **a** before consonants:
*Are you **a** doctor?*

Consonants

b	f	j	m	q	t	x
c	g	k	n	r	v	y
d	h	l	p	s	w	z

Here's **an** orange.
He's **an** old man now.

- We use **an** before vowels:
*I'm **an** English teacher.*



Vowels

a	e	i	o	u
---	---	---	---	---

Practice

2 Complete the sentences using **a** or **an**.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 It's <i>...a...</i> new book. | 6 He's waiter. |
| 2 She's <i>...an...</i> English teacher. | 7 It's ugly house. |
| 3 Are you student? | 8 Here's ticket for the play. |
| 4 Britain is island. | 9 He's good worker. |
| 5 They're at restaurant. | 10 It's not easy language. |

3 *there is, there are*

There's a cat in the garden.
 There are twenty students in the class.
 Is there a hotel near here?
 Are there a lot of tourists in your town?

- *There is, there's* + singular noun.
There are + plural noun.
- Question forms:
Is there ...?
Are there ...?

Practice

3 Complete the sentences using *there's*, *there are*, *is there* or *are there*.

- 1 ...*There's*... a beach down here.
- 2 ...*There are*... four girls and two boys in her family.
- 3 a train to Manchester?
- 4 a new disco near the college.
- 5 a good restaurant in this street?
- 6 two hospitals in town.
- 7 a lot of children in the pool?
- 8 three families in that house.
- 9 a television in the flat?
- 10 a big grey cloud over there.

4 *I know her: subject and object pronouns*

Subject	Verb	Object
I	see	them.
She	knows	me.
We	don't like	it.

- We also use object pronouns after prepositions:
*Do you live with **them**?*
*Jenny works with **him**.*

Subject pronouns

I	you	she	he	it	we	they
---	-----	-----	----	----	----	------

Object pronouns

me	you	her	him	it	us	them
----	-----	-----	-----	----	----	------

Practice

4a Circle the correct pronouns.

- 1 Can you help ~~we~~(us) with these bags?
- 2 (~~We~~)Us usually see ~~they~~(them) at the weekend.
- 3 How did you teach ~~he~~/him to read?
- 4 I/Me write to ~~she~~/her once a month.
- 5 ~~He~~/Him loved ~~she~~/her very much but ~~she~~/her didn't love ~~he~~/him.
- 6 Why did you ask ~~they~~/them to come? I/Me don't like ~~they~~/them.
- 7 I/Me don't think ~~she~~/her understands I/me.
- 8 Please don't wait for ~~we~~/us.
- 9 Did ~~they~~/them tell ~~she~~/her the news?
- 10 Would you like to come with I/me?

4b Complete these sentences with *me, you, her, him, it, us* or *them*.

- 1 I can't open this door. Could you open *..it..* for me, please?
- 2 Those shoes are really nice. I'd like to buy *..them..*
- 3 'Did you see Jonathon last night?' 'No, I phoned but he wasn't there.'
- 4 I can't do this homework. Can you help?
- 5 I asked a question but you didn't answer
- 6 We're not ready. Please give some more time.
- 7 She speaks very quickly. I can't understand
- 8 I'm sorry about your birthday. I'm afraid I forgot about
- 9 Jill's a very nice woman. Do you know
- 10 My parents are coming this weekend. Would you like to meet?
- 11 They're not married now. She left a year ago.
- 12 'Where's your passport?' 'I don't know. I can't find '
- 13 My mother writes to me every week but I don't write to very often.
- 14 Were you at the meeting last night? I didn't see there.
- 15 We want to help you. Please tell about your problems.

5 *nice, big, beautiful*: adjectives

It's a **beautiful** day.
 My teacher is very **young**.
 It's an **expensive** restaurant.
 They're very **friendly** people.

- Adjectives usually come before nouns:
*It's an **expensive** restaurant.*
 Adjectives can also come after the verb **to be**:
*My teacher is very **young**.*
- An adjective does not change. It is always the same for singular, plural, masculine and feminine nouns.
*a **clever** girl **clever** girls*
*a **clever** boy **clever** boys*

Practice

5 Write sentences with an adjective and a noun.

1 small / rooms

The rooms are small. They're small rooms.

2 not / long / story

It's not a long story. The story's not long.

3 happy / children

.....

4 dirty / restaurant

.....

5 heavy / books

.....

6 cold / house

.....

7 quiet / village

.....

8 not / cheap / clothes

.....

9 pretty / garden

.....

10 difficult / language

.....

6 *my, your, her, his ...* : possessive adjectives

That's **my** daughter.
Is this **your** book?
This is **her** office.
I've got **their** phone number.

*Personal
pronouns*

I
you
she
he
it
we
they

→
→
→
→
→
→
→

*Possessive
adjectives*

my
your
her
his
its
our
their

Notes

- my, your, her, his, its, our, their* do not change. They are the same with singular and plural nouns:

Here's **my** book.

I like **their** car.

Here are **my** books.

I like **their** cars.

- The possessive **its** has no apostrophe ('):

The cat likes **its** food.

NOT ~~The cat likes **it's** food.~~

Practice

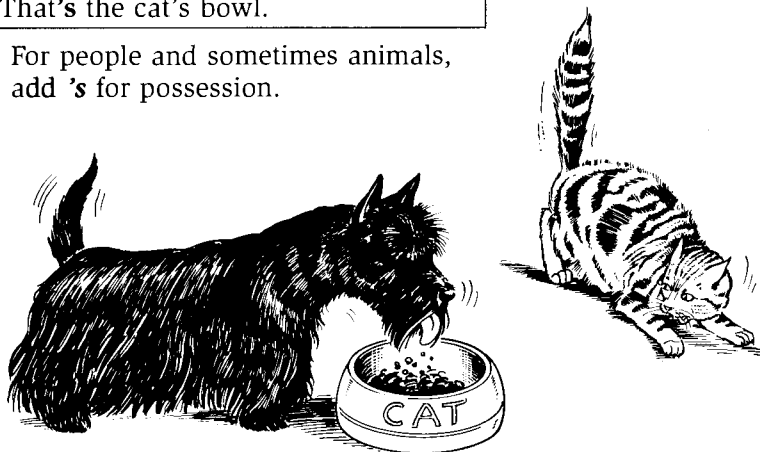
- 6 Complete the sentences with *my, your, her, his, its, our* or *their*.

- Alison is doing *her* homework.
- Do you live with *your* parents?
- We love new house.
- He's in office.
- The children are with grandmother.
- I like new job.
- Are you and your sister enjoying English classes?
- Amsterdam is famous for canals.
- She's with boyfriend.
- They haven't got umbrellas.
- She's in bedroom.
- He's looking for shoes.
- I like visiting friends at the weekend.
- Are the teachers having meeting now?
- Have you got passport?

7 Sylvia's mother: the possessive with 's

This is Derek's bike.
 Anne's paintings are beautiful.
 The doctor's surgery is in that street.
 That's the cat's bowl.

- For people and sometimes animals, add 's for possession.



Notes

- After a singular name or noun, the possessive is always 's:
This is Sue's bag.
These are Sue's bags.
- When the name is plural and ends in s, add 's:
My parents' flat is quite small.
The girls' bedroom is upstairs.
- When the name is plural but does not end in s, add 's:
The children's coats are here.
The men's toilets are closed.
Emma and Paul's car is outside.
- We also use 's with time words:
A week's holiday, today's weather, yesterday's newspaper
- And we use s' with plural time words:
Two weeks' holiday

Practice

7a Write the sentences again using the name in brackets.

- 1 These are her books. (Anne)

These are Anne's books.

- 2 Where is his coat? (Andrew)

Where is Andrew's coat?

- 3 Is that his car? (your brother)

.....

- 4 It's on her desk. (the teacher)

.....

5 Its dinner is here. (the dog)

.....

6 Her children are at school now. (Judy)

.....

7 It's her idea. (my wife)

.....

8 Its leg is broken. (that bird)

.....

9 His new bike is really good. (Jeff)

.....

10 Here's her telephone number. (the doctor)

.....

7b Write the sentences with the apostrophe (') in the correct place.

1 These are Susans keys.

These are Susan's keys.

2 I like your husbands haircut.

I like your husband's haircut.

3 Those are Robert and Sarahs children.

.....

4 There is a teachers meeting on Mondays.

.....

5 Are the childrens coats in the car?

.....

6 The mens clothes are upstairs.

.....

7 Alices mother is very ill.

.....

8 We have a months holiday in the summer.

.....

9 The students exams start next week.

.....

10 This is my mothers dress.

.....

8 Other possessives

The bank is at the end **of** the road.
There is a cafe at the top **of** the hill.



- Possession for things: noun + **of** + noun.
- After *the front, back, side, top, bottom, end, beginning*, we always use **of** + noun:

*It's in the front **of** the car.*

NOT ~~*It's in the car front.*~~

Have you got the *car keys*?
Can you close the *bathroom door*?



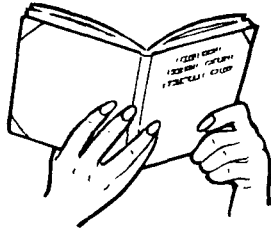
- With common nouns (e.g. *car, school, town, garden, kitchen, bedroom, sea, country, hotel*) **of** is not necessary. We usually say *the bathroom door* and NOT ~~*the door of the bathroom.*~~

Practice

8 Complete the sentences.

- 1 Have you got my *..car keys..* ? (keys/car)
- 2 There's a chair at the *..top of the garden..* (garden/top)
- 3 Can you close the ? (window/bedroom)
- 4 The money is in my (room/hotel)
- 5 I met Sarah at the (gates/school)
- 6 They live at the (hill/bottom)
- 7 There's an old tree at the (house/side)
- 8 Where's the (light/bathroom)
- 9 We always meet at the (clock/town)
- 10 The (air/sea) is very good for you.

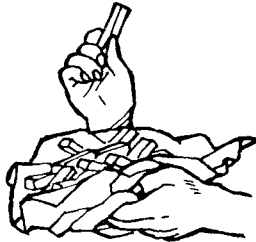
9 *this, that, these, those*: demonstrative adjectives and pronouns



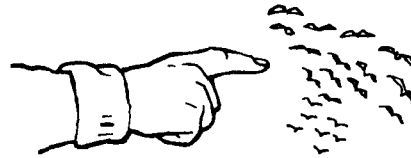
This book is really good.



That house is beautiful.



These chips are cold.

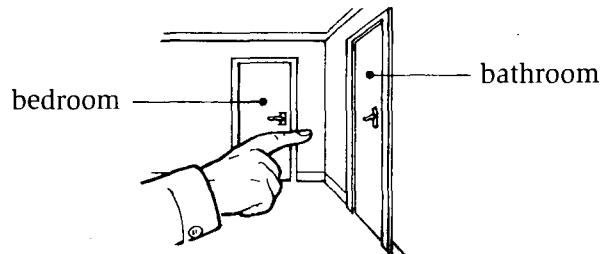


What are those birds?

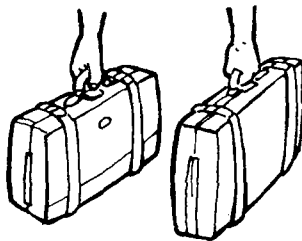
- *this, that, these, those* + noun: demonstrative adjective.



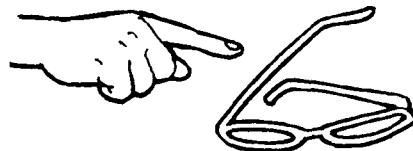
This is my mother.



That's the bathroom.



These are my cases.



Those are my glasses.

- *this, that, these, those* + verb: demonstrative pronoun.

This is singular. It is used with something that is **here**, next to the speaker.

That is singular. It is used with something that is **there**, not next to the speaker. Perhaps the speaker is looking at it or pointing to it.

These is plural. It is used with things that are **here**, next to the speaker.

Those is plural. It is used with things that are **there**, not next to the speaker.

10 *taller than ...* : comparative adjectives with *er*



Pam is **taller than** Helen.
 Pam's hair is **longer than** Helen's.
 Helen's **heavier than** Pam.
 Helen's **stronger than** Pam.

USE

- To compare two things.

FORM

- adjective + *er*:

old → *older*
tall → *taller*

One-syllable adjectives, add *er*.

happy → *happier*
easy → *easier*

Two-syllable adjectives ending in *y*, change *y* → *i* and add *er*.

- Spelling:

big → *bigger*
fat → *fatter*
thin → *thinner*
nice → *nicer*

When a one-syllable adjective ends with a vowel and one consonant, double the consonant before *er*. For adjectives ending in *e*, add *r*.

- Irregular comparative adjectives:

good → *better*, *bad* → *worse*.

Practice

10a Write the comparative adjective.

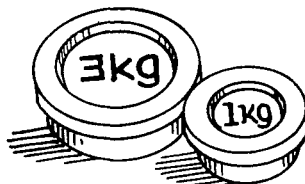
fast	<i>faster</i>
easy	<i>easier</i>
slow	
strong	
dirty	
small	
bad	
happy	
cold	
fat	

thin	
nice	
heavy	
old	
big	
angry	
long	
good	
clean	
short	

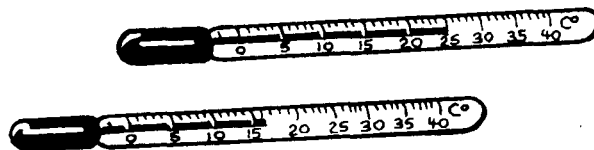
10b Complete these sentences using the comparative.



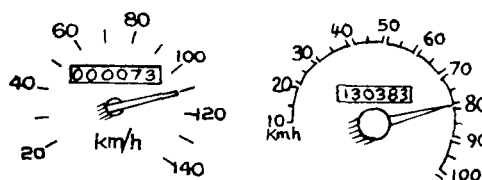
1 Vegetables *are cheaper than* meat.



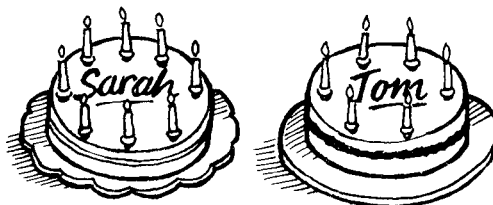
2 This bag of potatoes *is heavier than* this bag of tomatoes.



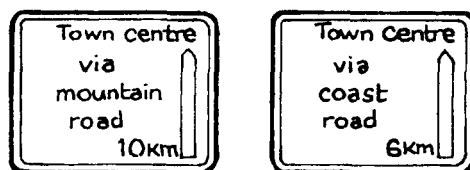
3 Spain England.



4 This new car my old one.



5 Sarah her brother.



6 The coast road to the town the mountain road.