

Skills for English B1 Grammar List

This list provides a selection of grammar points that could appear in a B1 level Skills for English test. This list is for guidance purposes only and grammar not included in this list may also appear in the B1 tests.

Tenses

Present simple:

I eat breakfast every morning.

He likes ice cream.

Present continuous:

I am eating lunch right now.

She is reading a book.

Present perfect simple:

I have seen that movie before.

They have not spoken yet.

Present perfect continuous:

He has been running since 3.30.

I've been thinking about this all day.

Past simple:

I played tennis yesterday.

She ate pizza last night.

Past continuous:

I was studying when you called.

We were waiting a long time.

Past perfect:

She had left the building by 5 pm.

He had wanted to stay longer.

Past perfect continuous:

She had been staying at the hotel when the power went off.

They had been asking about the problem until it got solved.

Future simple:

I will call you later.

They will not arrive on time.

Future continuous:

At this time next week, I will be working on my project.

They will be travelling to Europe during the summer.

Verbs

Basic regular and irregular verbs:

She has a cat.

I am happy.

There is/are:

There is a fox in the garden.

There are three pigs in the field.

Subject-verb agreement:

The woman drinks 8 glasses of water every day.

The couple are waiting for the bus to arrive.

Talking about future plans with "going to":

I'm going to visit my friend tomorrow.

They are going to the beach this weekend.

Imperatives for giving advice:

Take an umbrella with you.

Don't forget to study.

Passive voice – simple tenses:

Passive voice: The newspaper was left at the door by the postman.

Active voice: The postman left the newspaper at the door.

Used to / be used to / get used to:

I used to play in the park.

I am used to waking up early.

I will get used to it eventually.

Phrasal verbs:

I'll wash up the dishes as long as you do the drying.

Don't throw away your old clothes; take them to a charity shop.

I feel like we don't hang out as much as we used to.

Non-finite verbs

Gerunds & infinitives as subjects:

Gerund: Concentrating is not always easy for me.

Infinitive: To travel in Europe can be very expensive.

Gerunds & infinitives as objects:

Gerund: I look forward to helping you later.

Infinitive: My sister decided to get a job

Gerunds & infinitives for purpose:

Gerund: The towel is for drying your hair.

Infinitive: I use a standing desk to improve my posture.

Modals

Basic modal verbs and their negatives:

She can play the drums.

He can't go to school today.

Ability and possibility:

I can/can't swim.

Could you help me?

He may/may not be able to help.

Necessity and obligation:

You must finish your homework.

We have to wear special shoes when working on the site.

Permission & requests:

Could I speak to Henry, please?

Can you do me a favour please?

Deduction:

She's ten minutes late. She might be stuck in traffic.

That's my phone ringing. That must be her.

Suggestion:

You should take the bus – it's much faster.

We could meet after lunch.

Clauses

Relative clauses:

Defining: I am the player who scores the most goals.

Non-defining: The leisure centre, which was built last year, is just across town.

Adverb clauses of time:

I usually take a shower before I go to bed.

Can you wait over there until I am ready?

Adverb clauses of reason / purpose / contrast:

Reason: Because of the weather, it's probably best to stay indoors.

Purpose: He works hard so there is less to do later.

Contrast: I work here even though the pay's not great.

Conditionals

Zero conditional

If you mix red and white, you get pink.

The TV works if you turn it on.

First conditional:

If it rains, I will stay at home.

He'll be late if the train is delayed.

Second conditional:

If I won a lot of money, I'd buy a sports car.

If she studied harder, she would pass the test.

Third conditional:

If you had worked harder yesterday, you would have finished by now.

If there hadn't been so many delays, we wouldn't have missed the start.

Nouns

Singular nouns:

The cat is black.

The plant is new.

Common regular and irregular plural nouns:

Dogs are cute animals.

There are three babies.

Personal pronouns:

She is my sister.

They are friends.

Proper nouns:

New York is a big city.

Sarah is 11 years old.

Countable nouns:

I have three apples.

There are two cats.

Uncountable nouns:

I need some water.

Do you have any money?

Demonstrative pronouns:

This is my hat.

Those are your shoes.

Reflexive & reciprocal pronouns:

I'm using an app to teach myself a new language.

I hope you enjoy yourselves later.

Possessives

Simple possessives:

That is Mary's car.

The dog's tail is brown.

Possessive pronouns:

This is my book.

Is this yours?

Articles

Definite article:

The book is on the shelf.

The computer is broken.

Indefinite articles:

A dog is barking.

An ant is small.

Adjectives

Describing nouns:

The red car is fast.

That's a big house.

Comparative and superlative:

The turtle is slower than the rabbit.

This is the biggest cake.

Comparative and superlative using 'more' and 'most':

Comparative: *This book is more interesting than that one.*

Superlatives: *It's the most beautiful place.*

Adjectives ending in '-ing' and '-ed':

That clicking noise you make when you eat is very annoying.

I was surprised to see you here.

Intensifiers to modify adjectives:

You played exceptionally well today.

That was a really interesting story.

Ordering of multiple adjectives before a noun:

It's a beautiful, old house.

The big, red car.

Adverbs

Common adverbs

They moved slowly.

She walked quickly.

Adverbs of degree:

The boy is very tall.

I really like it.

Adverbs of frequency:

I always brush my teeth.

They sometimes come on time.

Comparatives with adverbs:

Can you walk more slowly please? I can't keep up!

The bird sings more quietly in the morning.

Adverbs with perfect tenses:

I've already watched this film. Let's watch another instead.

Ben has been playing a lot of football recently.

Conjunctions

Combining simple sentences:

I like pizza and he likes chips.

The cat is black but the dog is white.

Coordinating conjunctions:

We can eat pasta or pizza.

I passed because I studied a lot.

Prepositions

Prepositions of place, e.g., in, under, on, near, next to, between, on the left/right:

The pen is on the desk.

The cat is under the table.

Prepositions of time:

The film starts at 5 pm.

We have class on Monday.

The weather is nice in May.

Adjective and preposition combinations:

Adjective + at:

She's really good at football.

He's amazing at the flute.

Adjective + about:

He's nervous about the meeting.

We're excited about the new house.

Adjective + in:

She's interested in the project.

We'd prefer someone who's experienced in marketing.

Adjective + for:

Exercise is good for you.

The city is famous for its river.

Adjective + to:

I'm married to Helen.

It's important to arrive early.

Adjective + of:

I'm afraid of the dark.

He's proud of the team.

Negation

Negative sentences:

I don't like bread.

She isn't here.

Negative questions:

Don't you like pizza?

Isn't he coming?

Discourse markers

Sequencing:

Firstly, secondly, next, finally

Adding information:

Moreover, additionally, furthermore

Contrasting:

However, on the other hand, whereas

Cause and effect:

As a result, consequently, therefore

Informal spoken:

As I was saying, anyway, I mean

Questions

Yes/no questions:

Is it sunny today?

Are you coming?

Do you speak English?

'Wh' and 'How' questions:

What's your name?

Where do you live?

Why are you here?

Who is your friend?

How did you get here?

Question tags:

The race starts over there, doesn't it?

The book's over there, isn't it?