

# Skills for English B2 Grammar List

This list provides a selection of grammar points that could appear in a B2 level Skills for English test. This list is for guidance purposes only and grammar not included in this list may also appear in the B2 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'd 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.

### Future perfect:

By the time you arrive, I will have finished preparing dinner.

In five years, they will have saved enough money to buy a house.

### Future perfect continuous:

By next year, I will have been studying French for five years.

They will have been living in this city for a decade by 2025.

### Future in the past:

Last year, he said he would visit Paris, and he did.

She told me she was going to graduate in a few months.

## 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.

### Passive voice – Perfect tenses & modals:

The book has been read by many people.  
The car must be repaired before it can be driven.

### Passive voice – Gerunds & infinitives:

I remember being taught how to swim by my grandfather.  
She wants to be invited to the conference.

### Passive voice – Distancing expressions:

It is said that the ancient city was founded by a king.  
The document was allegedly forged by a dishonest employee.

### Causative verbs:

He was allowed to take the car home by the mechanic.  
She forced him to do his homework.

## 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.*

**Certainty expressions:**

*She must be at home by now.*

*It can't be true.*

**Obligation expressions:**

*You should attend the training session.*

*I must finish this report before the deadline.*

**Regret & unreality:**

*I should have studied more for the exam.*

*If only I could have been there for her when she needed me.*

**Ideal situations:**

*Everyone should be treated with respect.*

*In a perfect world, people would live in harmony.*

## 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.*

**Relative clauses with 'Whose':**

*The woman whose car was stolen reported the incident to the police.*

*He found a book whose author is a friend of mine.*

**Relative clauses with relative adverbs:**

*The house where they used to live is now abandoned.*

*She visited the restaurant where we had our first date.*

**Relative clauses – preposition placement:**

*The person to whom I spoke was very helpful.*

*The dress for which she paid a lot was worth every penny.*

**Relative clauses as sentence modifiers:**

*Having finished the project, they celebrated their success.*

*With a smile on her face, she accepted the award.*

**Relative clauses – reduced:**

*The man driving the car is my brother.*

*The book written by Hemingway is a classic.*

**Participle clauses:**

*Having finished their work, they went out for dinner.*

*The book, written by a famous author, became a bestseller.*

## 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.*

### Conditionals – 'if' alternatives:

*Unless you study, you won't pass the exam.  
Assuming it rains, we'll stay indoors.*

### Mixed conditionals:

*If you had studied harder, you wouldn't be failing now.  
If I spoke Korean more fluently, I might not have had such problems.*

## 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?

## Intensifiers

**'So' and 'Such' to intensify adjectives, adverbs and nouns:**

The weather's so hot!

The new laptop cost so much money.

The pollution here is such an issue right now.

## 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?

**Questions – Past for politeness:**

What was the name please?

Did you want another coffee?

**Questions – Negative (uncontracted):**

Are you not coming to the meeting today?

Has he not finished his homework yet?

## Reported speech

**Questions / Requests / Commands:**

She asked me if I could help her with her homework.

He told us to be quiet during the meeting.