



Grammar Talks 3-01 | Be Verb

## Saving Money

Two people talk about their spending habits and saving money.

**Abidemi:** Todd, \_\_\_\_\_ you good at saving money?

**Todd:** No, I'm terrible. I waste money. I waste so much money.

**Abidemi:** How?

**Todd:** Well, I don't \_\_\_\_\_ things on sale. I don't \_\_\_\_\_ coupons. I buy anything I see. So, when I shop, I don't \_\_\_\_\_ at prices. I just see the food or the thing and I get it and I buy it and I \_\_\_\_\_ for it. And, then it's sometimes very expensive. So, I just waste money. I don't budget. I need to budget my money but I don't budget my money. What about you? Are you good at saving money?

**Abidemi:** I don't think I'm too bad at saving money. I look at prices a lot. I also buy a lot of things on sale. So, I'm able to \_\_\_\_\_ some money.

**Todd:** So, you look for discounts.

**Abidemi:** Yes, I do.

**Todd:** Do you use coupons or special offers?

**Abidemi:** No, I \_\_\_\_\_, but if I see some I will use them.

**Todd:** So, do you \_\_\_\_\_ money on anything? Like, maybe eating out, buying clothes, renting movies?

**Abidemi:** I waste money on buying clothes.

**Todd:** Oh, okay!

**Abidemi:** But, I save a little bit because I buy them \_\_\_\_\_.

**Todd:** Ah, do you buy things online?

**Abidemi:** No, I don't. I usually go into the stores to shop.

**Todd:** I'm good with clothes too. So, I don't \_\_\_\_\_ much money on clothes. I only \_\_\_\_\_ maybe once a year. Or, I only shop if I need something, like it's really cold and I need a jacket.

**Abidemi:** I see.

**Todd:** And, I'm really bad, so I often only wear clothes people give to me.

**Abidemi:** That's good!

**Todd:** Yeah, so I get shirts or ties for Christmas gifts or a birthday gift, and I \_\_\_\_\_ that. My mom often asks ... every



## Quiz

- 1) Who is good at saving money?
  - a) She is.
  - b) He is.
  - c) Neither of them.
- 2) Who wastes a lot of money on food?
  - a) He does.
  - b) She does.
  - c) Neither of them.
- 3) What does she waste money on?
  - a) Eating out
  - b) Clothes
  - c) Gifts
- 4) How does he save money on clothes?
  - a) He asks for gifts
  - b) He looks for sales
  - c) He buys used clothing
- 5) Who talks about money and travelling?
  - a) Just her.
  - b) Just him.
  - c) Both of them

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

spend	save	are	shop
use	on sale	do	don't
waste	pay	buy	look

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Are you good at saving money?
- 2) Do you buy things online?
- 3) Do you waste money on food?
- 4) How do you save money?
- 5) Do you follow a budget?

- ( ) Yes, I make a spending plan every month  
 ( ) Yes, I do not spend too much.  
 ( ) Yes, but just clothes and books.  
 ( ) I usually buy used clothes.  
 ( ) No, I usually cook cheaply at home.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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my mom asks, "What do you want for Christmas?", "What do you want for your birthday?"

And I'll say, "Underwear and socks" or "Socks and T-shirts". And so, she buys them for me and then I don't have to buy them.

**Abidemi:** Wow. Sounds like you're an easy person to give a present to.

**Todd:** Yes, for clothes. Yes, for clothes. But, I waste money on computers and electronics and those things are expensive. So, I buy a new computer every year. I have four computers now in my house.

**Abidemi:** Wow.

**Todd:** I have five mobile phones.

**Abidemi:** Wow.

**Todd:** I have an iPad. I have lots of electronic equipment. So, I spend so much money on those things.

**Abidemi:** I waste money on traveling.

**Todd:** Ah, yeah.

**Abidemi:** Every year, I take about one or two trips to different countries. So, that's where a lot of my money go.

**Todd:** Yeah, traveling is expensive.

**Abidemi:** Yes, yes.

**Todd:** But, when you travel, do you save money? Do you stay at cheap hotels? Or, do you buy cheap plane tickets?

**Abidemi:** I try to. I try to all the time. But, usually the plane ticket is so expensive that a lot of my savings is already gone.

**Todd:** Yeah, I know. I buy my tickets online, usually with Expedia. And, it's cheap. It's pretty cheap. I waste money on food. I eat out almost every day.

**Abidemi:** Wow.

**Todd:** Or, I buy my dinner at the supermarket almost every day. Do you waste money on food?

**Abidemi:** No, I don't. I usually get bored if I eat out too much, because even though I am not a very good cook, there are some thing that I cook that I like to eat. So, I would miss those things. So, no, I don't waste money on eating out.

**Todd:** Ah, that's interesting. So, you save money, I waste money. You have to teach me your tricks. You have to teach me your tips on saving money.

**Abidemi:** Please teach me how to get cheap travel tickets.

**Todd:** It's a deal.

**Abidemi:** Thanks.



## Grammar Notes

### Verbs in Simple Present Tense (First Person)

We use the simple present to talk about actions we do again and again.

**Point 1:** WH questions use the following pattern.

Wh + **do** (does) + noun / pronoun + **verb** .. ?

1. What **do** you **do**?
2. Where **do** you **live**?
3. How **do** you **get** to school?
4. When **do** you **exercise**?
5. Why **do** you **want** a pet?

**Point 2:** Affirmative statements use the following pattern.

1. I work for a tech company.
2. I live near the station.
3. I take the bus.
4. I play soccer every Monday night.

**Point 3:** Negative statements use the following pattern.

1. I **do not** work from home.
2. I **do not** live near my work.
3. I **don't** drive to work.
4. I **don't** exercise that much.

In spoken English we often say **don't** instead of **do not**.

**Point 4:** Yes/No questions use the following pattern.

Do (does) + noun / pronoun + verb ... ?

1. Do you like tennis?
2. Do you have a car?
3. Do you cook a lot?
4. Do you want a pet?

**Point 5** You do not need to repeat the verb when you answer a Yes/No question.

1. Do you like tennis?
2. Yes, I do. (Yes, I like tennis.)
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**Abidemi:** Thanks.



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3. Do you cook a lot?
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4. It depends. (Sometimes yes, and sometimes no)



Grammar Talks 3-02 Third Person Singular

### Fit Girlfriend and Bad Roommate

Listen to two stories about dealing with other people.

**Meg:** Hey, Todd. I was talking to your girlfriend and she \_\_\_\_\_ really fit.

**Todd:** Yeah. She's very fit. It's kind of a problem \_\_\_\_\_.

**Meg:** Oh really? Why?

**Todd:** Well, she \_\_\_\_\_ what she eats and she's very careful about the food she \_\_\_\_\_. So she doesn't eat meat, she doesn't eat fast food. She \_\_\_\_\_ eat sugar. She doesn't drink coffee. So because she doesn't eat or drink all these foods, it's kind of hard if we go out to \_\_\_\_\_ or if I want to eat something because then I feel \_\_\_\_\_.

**Meg:** Do you also not eat those foods?

**Todd:** No. Are you kidding? I mean, I \_\_\_\_\_ eat fast food and I love to \_\_\_\_\_ sweets and stuff like that. So we both love exercise, right. So she \_\_\_\_\_ a lot. I exercise a lot. She exercises more than I do but yeah, the diet thing is kind of a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Meg:** Hmm.

**Todd:** So what do you think I should do?

**Meg:** Maybe you should also try to be healthy because it \_\_\_\_\_ like a good idea.

**Todd:** Yeah, maybe. I'll give it a try. But the thing is, you know, she – there's one other problem. She eats five small meals a day, so never eats big meals. So we can't go to a restaurant and stuff like that. So it's just really hard to adjust. I mean, I love a big breakfast, you know. She never eats a big breakfast. She always eats these small little meals, so yeah.

**Meg:** Well maybe, you can cook at home together.

**Todd:** Maybe. Or maybe I should just get a new girlfriend.

**Meg:** Maybe. Good luck.



### Quiz

- 1) Who does not eat meat?
  - a) Meg
  - b) Todd
  - c) His girlfriend
- 2) Who eats fast food?
  - a) Todd does
  - b) His girlfriend does
  - c) Both of them
- 3) Who eats five meals a day?
  - a) Meg
  - b) Todd
  - c) His girlfriend
- 4) What does Meg think Todd should do?
  - a) cook together
  - b) stop eating meat
  - c) get a new girlfriend

### Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- |        |           |         |         |
|--------|-----------|---------|---------|
| sounds | exercises | hassle  | doesn't |
| guilty | always    | watches | dinner  |
| seems  | actually  | eats    | eat     |

### Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Who excises a lot?
- 2) Who follows a healthy diet?
- 3) Who does not speak English?
- 4) Who does not help around the house?
- 5) Who does not have much free time?

- ( ) My mom. She jogs every day.  
 ( ) My sister. She has two jobs and goes to school.  
 ( ) My brother. He never lifts a finger.  
 ( ) My father. He never eats sugar or fried foods.  
 ( ) My uncle. He only knows Spanish.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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## Story #2

**Todd:** Hey, Jeff this is a very nice apartment.

**Jeff:** Hmm. It's comfortable.

**Todd:** I like it. Do you live alone?

**Jeff:** I live alone but right now I have a friend of mine staying with me.

**Todd:** Oh, really, a roommate.

**Jeff:** Sort of like a roommate, yes. A short term, he's staying with me *short-term*, so yes a roommate.

**Todd:** OK, how's that going?

**Jeff:** Ah, I don't like it.

**Todd:** Why?

**Jeff:** He's lazy. He's messy. He drinks too much. He doesn't exercise and he doesn't *contribute* any money to the rent.

**Todd:** Ooh, so he lives here and he doesn't give you any money?

**Jeff:** Well, yeah, he doesn't give me any money. The money's not so bad, though, it's just that he's lazy and he doesn't do much all day.

**Todd:** That's got to be pretty annoying.

**Jeff:** He's a great fellow. He's a good friend of mine, but, yeah, he's, I try to motivate him to do a few things but he's a tough one.

**Todd:** Are you going to tell him he has to move out?

**Jeff:** Ah, no, he's a smart man. He knows. He knows. He knows the deal. He *knows what's going on* and I think he's, yeah, I would never ask him to move out because I don't mind having him here but I'm just going to try to *whip him into shape*.

**Todd:** Oh, so you're just going to try to change him so he becomes a better roommate?

**Jeff:** I'm going to be like a woman and try to, yeah, try to get him a better schedule, a better schedule like exercise and eating right and less smoking and less drinking.

**Todd:** Well, what is his schedule?

**Jeff:** Ah, his schedule is, he's like a *night owl*, he stays up most of the night drinking, and then he sleeps most of the day recovering, and then when he gets up he has a hangover. He's a bit sluggish and slow, so it's not a healthy lifestyle.

**Todd:** Yeah, it doesn't sound like it. Good luck.

**Jeff:** No problem.



## Grammar Notes

### Present Simple - Third Person Singular

**Point 1:** The third person singular refers to a person or thing you are talking about. Because it is singular, it refers to just one person or thing.

1. **Bob** is my boss. **He** helps me a lot.
2. **Suzy** has a nice car, but **she** never drives it to work.
3. **My phone** does not take pictures. **It** does not have camera.
4. **This pizza** tastes great. **It** has a lot of calories though.

**Point 2:** In the present tense, we add an /-s/ to verbs if the subject is the third person singular.

1. Larry **loves** videos games. He **plays** them every night.
2. Sue **walks** to work. She **listens** to podcasts as she walks.
3. My phone **needs** a new charger. It **costs** 40 dollars.

**Point 3:** In negative statements, change **do not** to **does not**. In spoken English, we often say the contraction **doesn't**.

- She **does not** work nights.
- She **doesn't** work nights.
- He **does not** travel much.
- He **doesn't** travel much.
- It **does not** snow much in my town.
- It **doesn't** snow much in my town.

**Point 4:** In questions, change the auxiliary **do** to **does** in WH questions if the question is about the object.

- *When* **does** the train leave?
- It **leaves** a six.
- What **does** your mom want for her birthday?
- She **wants** a cat.
- How **does** your wife get to work?
- She **takes** the bus.
- Why **does** he always look angry?
- He **has** a lot of stress.

**Point 5:** Add /-s/ to the verb, and do not use **does**, if the question is about the subject. The question word will be either **what** or **who**.

- Who **lives** here?
- My friend **lives** here.
- What **costs** a lot of money?
- College **costs** a lot of money.
- Who **talks** to you every day?
- My dad **talks** to me every day.
- What **takes up** a lot of your time?
- Driving to work **does**.

**Point 6:** In Yes/No questions, change the auxiliary **do** to **does** in both the question and the short answer.

- **Does** he work here?
- Yes, he **does**. / No, he **doesn't**. (does not)
- **Does** she have a nice house?
- Yes, she **does**. / No, she **does** not.
- **Does** it rain much in your town?
- Yes, it **does**. / No, it **does** not



Grammar Talks 3-02 Third Person Singular

## Fit Girlfriend and Bad Roommate

Listen to two stories about dealing with other people.

**Meg:** Hey, Todd. I was talking to your girlfriend and she **seems** really fit.

**Todd:** Yeah. She's very fit. It's kind of a problem **actually**.

**Meg:** Oh really? Why?

**Todd:** Well, she **watches** what she eats and she's very careful about the food she **eats**. So she doesn't eat meat, she doesn't eat fast food. She **doesn't** eat sugar. She doesn't drink coffee. So because she doesn't eat or drink all these foods, it's kind of hard if we go out to **dinner** or if I want to eat something because then I feel **guilty**.

**Meg:** Do you also not eat those foods?

**Todd:** No. Are you kidding? I mean, I **always** eat fast food and I love to **eat** sweets and stuff like that. So we both love exercise, right. So she **exercises** a lot. I exercise a lot. She exercises more than I do but yeah, the diet thing is kind of a **hassle**.

**Meg:** Hmm.

**Todd:** So what do you think I should do?

**Meg:** Maybe you should also try to be healthy because it **sounds** like a good idea.

**Todd:** Yeah, maybe. I'll give it a try. But the thing is, you know, she – there's one other problem. She eats five small meals a day, so never eats big meals. So we can't go to a restaurant and stuff like that. So it's just really hard to adjust. I mean, I love a big breakfast, you know. She never eats a big breakfast. She always eats these small little meals, so yeah.

**Meg:** Well maybe, you can cook at home together.

**Todd:** Maybe. Or maybe I should just get a new girlfriend.

**Meg:** Maybe. Good luck.



## Quiz

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## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

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guilty	always	watches	dinner
seems	actually	eats	eat

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- *When* **does** the train leave?
- It **leaves** a six.
- What **does** your mom want for her birthday?
- She **wants** a cat.
- How **does** your wife get to work?
- She **takes** the bus.
- Why **does** he always look angry?
- He **has** a lot of stress.

**Point 5:** Add *-s/* to the verb, and do not use **does**, if the question is about the subject. The question word will be either **what** or **who**.

- Who **lives** here?
- My friend **lives** here.
- What **costs** a lot of money?
- College **costs** a lot of money.
- Who **talks** to you every day?
- My dad **talks** to me every day.
- What **takes up** a lot of your time?
- Driving to work **does**.

**Point 6:** In Yes/No questions, change the auxiliary **do** to **does** in both the question and the short answer.

- **Does** he work here?
- Yes, he **does**. / No, he **doesn't**. (does not)
- **Does** she have a nice house?
- Yes, she **does**. / No, she **does** not.
- **Does** it rain much in your town?
- Yes, it **does**. / No, it **does** not



Grammar Talks 3-03 Present Continuous

**Where is everyone?**

Two people discuss what their family is doing at the moment.

**Part 1:** Daniel goes to Hana's house.

**Daniel:** Hey, I'm really sorry I'm late. I came as fast as I could.

**Hana:** It's OK. Nobody has really come yet.

**Daniel:** Why? Where are they?

**Hana:** Well, John is \_\_\_\_\_. He is \_\_\_\_\_ some food.

**Daniel:** OK, what about Emma? Where is she?

**Hana:** Emma has an exam, so she is \_\_\_\_\_ and she is going to come later.

**Daniel:** OK, how about Alex? I don't see him around.

**Hana:** Oh, Alex is over there. He is \_\_\_\_\_ for the BBQ.

**Daniel:** Oh, yeah, that's right. And how about Marcus and Emily?

**Hana:** They are over there. They are \_\_\_\_\_.

**Daniel:** Oh, so how many people are left? Who else is \_\_\_\_\_?

**Hana:** Uh, I don't know. No one has really contacted me yet.

**Daniel:** Oh, well, let's hope we can get around ten people maybe.

**Hana:** Yes, I hope so.

**Daniel:** Cool!



**Part 2:** Hana goes to Daniel's house.

**Hana:** Hello!

**Daniel:** Hello, come in.

**Hana:** Where is everyone?

**Daniel:** Well, everyone is \_\_\_\_\_ something right now.

**Hana:** Oh, really? Where's your mom?

**Daniel:** My mom? She's at the mall. I think she's \_\_\_\_\_ . I



**Quiz**

- 1) What is John doing?
  - a) studying
  - b) resting
  - c) shopping
- 2) What is Emma doing?
  - a) watching TV
  - b) shopping
  - c) studying
- 3) What are Marcus and Emily doing?
  - a) working
  - b) having fun
  - c) studying
- 4) What is Alex doing?
  - a) cooking
  - b) sleeping
  - c) leaving
- 5) What is his mom doing?
  - a) cooking dinner
  - b) shopping
  - c) dancing

**Grammar Challenge**

Fill in the blanks with the correct word. You can use some words more than once.

- |         |          |           |          |
|---------|----------|-----------|----------|
| playing | shopping | getting   | studying |
| doing   | coming   | preparing | sleeping |

**Speaking Challenge**

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What are you wearing right now?
- 2) Are you sitting or standing at the moment?
- 3) Where are you doing this activity?
- 4) What are your friends and family doing right now?
- 5) Is your English improving?

- ( ) I'm doing this at my work on my break.  
 ( ) Yes, it is slowly getting better.  
 ( ) I'm wearing jeans and t-shirt.  
 ( ) I am sitting at the moment.  
 ( ) They are working just like me.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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think she's **getting** the groceries for the week.

**Hana:** Oh! How about your dad?

**Daniel:** Well, every weekend he goes to the country club, so I think he's **playing** golf with his friend now.

**Hana:** Where's your brother and sister?

**Daniel:** My brother, he's upstairs. I think he's probably **sleeping** or **playing** video games as he always does. And my sister, she's at school. She's **playing** soccer cause she has a game today.

**Hana:** Oh, really? When does the game start?

**Daniel:** I think in twenty or thirty minutes.

**Hana:** Let's go watch it.

**Daniel:** Really, that sounds fun. Let's go.



## Grammar Notes

### Present Continuous

**Point 1:** We use the present continuous for actions that start and finish within a timeframe. We often say the action is happening now.

1. What are you doing?
2. I'm calling my friend. (The action will stop soon)
3. What are you watching on TV?
4. I'm watching a documentary about the Olympics.

**Point 2:** We use the present simple tense for an action that is repeating or ongoing. We use the present continuous if the action will end at some time.

1. I live in New York.
2. I'm living in New York at the moment. (I will move at some point)
3. I work a lot.
4. I'm working a lot these days. (I will work less soon.)

**Point 3:** In fast spoken English, the be verbs are contracted and the /g/ in the /-ing/ is omitted.

1. I am having a good time.
2. I'm havin' a good time.
3. She is making a big mistake.
4. She's makin' a big mistake.
5. He is not coming to the party.
6. He isn't comin' to the party.

**Point 4:** We often use the present continuous for plans in the future, especially if the action is known or anticipated by other people.

- **Are you coming to the party tomorrow night?**
- Yes, but I'm working tomorrow, so I might be late.
- **Is anyone coming with you?**
- Yes, I'm bringing my friend.



Grammar Talks 3-03 Present Continuous

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Two people discuss what their family is doing at the moment.

**Part 1:** Daniel goes to Hana's house.

**Daniel:** Hey, I'm really sorry I'm late. I came as fast as I could.

**Hana:** It's OK. Nobody has really come yet.

**Daniel:** Why? Where are they?

**Hana:** Well, John is **shopping**. He is **getting** some food.

**Daniel:** OK, what about Emma? Where is she?

**Hana:** Emma has an exam, so she is **studying** and she is going to come later.

**Daniel:** OK, how about Alex? I don't see him around.

**Hana:** Oh, Alex is over there. He is **preparing** for the BBQ.

**Daniel:** Oh, yeah, that's right. And how about Marcus and Emily?

**Hana:** They are over there. They are **playing**.

**Daniel:** Oh, so how many people are left? Who else is **coming**?

**Hana:** Uh, I don't know. No one has really contacted me yet.

**Daniel:** Oh, well, let's hope we can get around ten people maybe.

**Hana:** Yes, I hope so.

**Daniel:** Cool!



**Part 2:** Hana goes to Daniel's house.

**Hana:** Hello!

**Daniel:** Hello, come in.

**Hana:** Where is everyone?

**Daniel:** Well, everyone is **doing** something right now.

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**Daniel:** My mom? She's at the mall. I think she's **shopping**. I



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a) studying  
b) resting  
c) **shopping**
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a) watching TV  
b) shopping  
c) **studying**
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a) working  
b) having fun  
c) **studying**
- 4) What is Alex doing? ✓  
a) **cooking**  
b) sleeping  
c) leaving
- 5) What is his mom doing? ✓  
a) cooking dinner  
b) **shopping**  
c) dancing

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word. You can use some words more than once.

playing	shopping	getting	studying
doing	coming	preparing	sleeping

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

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- **Is anyone coming with you?**
- Yes, I'm bringing my friend.



Beginner 3 | Lesson 4 | Will - Future Tense

## Holiday Plans

Sarah and Todd share what they will do and won't do over the holiday break.

**Todd:** So Sarah, we have the holidays coming up. Are you going to do anything exciting?

**Sarah:** No, nothing exciting. I will just \_\_\_\_\_ most of the vacation, but there are a few things I'll do. I will bake a cake for Christmas. I will sing lots of Christmas songs with my children. We \_\_\_\_\_ together and video it. I want to send a video of us singing to grandparents. So \_\_\_\_\_ sing Christmas songs, and we will videotape it. Then, we can send it to our grandparents. I think \_\_\_\_\_ really like it.

**Todd:** Oh, that's nice. So, \_\_\_\_\_ have a big Christmas dinner?

**Sarah:** Yes, we have some things that we always eat. We'll have ham, and \_\_\_\_\_ potatoes and cake, and my favorite thing is to cook fudge. \_\_\_\_\_ the fudge probably tomorrow night, and then we \_\_\_\_\_ it until Christmas.

**Todd:** Okay, oh cool.

**Sarah:** And it's really, it's really hard not to eat it, because it's so delicious, and everyone loves it. Every day, the children will ask me, "Oh, can we eat it? Can we eat it?" "No, no, no, you can't eat it." We'll wait 'til Christmas to eat the fudge.

**Todd:** Oh, that's good. I, I couldn't do that.

**Sarah:** What we won't do is, I \_\_\_\_\_ any work, and I won't do any chores like clean the house or do laundry. Those can wait until after Christmas, so I \_\_\_\_\_ working hard. I just want to relax.

**Sarah:** Todd, how 'bout you? What will you do?

**Todd:** Well, I \_\_\_\_\_ away. I don't like the cold, so I \_\_\_\_\_ to Thailand, and I will stay there and just work actually.

**Sarah:** Oh.



## Quiz

- 1) She says she will \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) go shopping
  - b) bake food
  - c) visit her grandparents
- 2) She says she will \_\_\_\_\_ the kids.
  - a) make cookies
  - b) play in the snow
  - c) sing songs
- 3) Why will he go to Thailand?
  - a) To relax at the beach
  - b) To make friends
  - c) To do some work
- 4) Who will eat crab?
  - a) He will
  - b) She will
  - c) They both will
- 4) What will they both do on New Year's Eve?
  - a) Go out to a party
  - b) Stay up very late
  - c) Be home by midnight

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- |           |            |           |           |
|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| will go   | we'll have | we will   | won't eat |
| I'll cook | will you   | stay home | will get  |
| they will | will sing  | won't do  | won't be  |

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Where will you go later tonight?
- 2) What will you do later tonight?
- 3) Will you eat something before bed?
- 4) Will you prepare anything for tomorrow?
- 5) What time will you get to sleep?

- ( ) I will get to bed sometime before midnight.  
 ( ) Nowhere. I'll just stay home.  
 ( ) Nothing much. I'll likely just watch TV.  
 ( ) No I won't. If I do, I won't be able to sleep.  
 ( ) Yes, I will pack a lunch because I'll have no time to go out.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Todd:** I will do stuff for Ello. I will work on a book, a new book for Ello, and I will just take it easy. I won't travel. I won't go to the beach. I won't go to the mountains. I won't do any of the touristy stuff. I will just take it easy, relax every day, and do what I call a workcation.

**Sarah:** Wow, what will the weather be like?

**Todd:** Well, it's the best time of year in Thailand, so it's quite warm in December and January. It should be about, I don't know, 70, 80 degrees, 25 degrees Celsius., so it will be nice every day. It should be.

**Sarah:** Ah. Will you do anything special on Christmas Day?

**Todd:** I won't. You know, usually, when I travel, I forget it's Christmas even sometimes. Obviously, I will see the decorations in the malls and things like that. But, I won't do anything on Christmas Day. They don't celebrate Christmas in Thailand. It's a Buddhist country, so it's a normal work day. Everybody will be going to work. All the shops will be open. It won't be different than any other day, so that will be nice.

**Sarah:** I see.

**Todd:** So, I will be able to work like a normal day. I will probably call family and friends, and I will check Facebook and see what people are doing. But, I won't have a traditional Christmas.

**Sarah:** How about New Year's? Will they do anything special for New Year's?

**Todd:** Yeah, in Bangkok, it gets really crazy on New Year's. But, even then, on New Year's, I probably won't do anything. I'm 49, so I've seen many, many New Year's. I'll probably just go out for a bit, and I'll probably be back home before midnight, actually. I won't do anything crazy. How 'bout you? What will you do for New Year's?



**Sarah:** Well, I have three kids, so my husband and I will probably stay home too. We like to have some fun. My husband bought crab, so we will eat crab for New Year's. I love champagne, so I'll have some champagne. We'll probably have a big, delicious dinner, and I'll drink some champagne. The kids will probably go to sleep at 10:00. Then, a little after midnight, I'll go to sleep too, so nothing exciting.

**Todd:** Yeah, so, yeah, it sounds like we have pretty tame plans.

**Sarah:** Definitely.

**Todd:** But, at least, I will be warm.

**Sarah:** Yes.

## Grammar Notes

### Will for Future Tense

**Point 1:** We use **will** to talk about things happening in the future.

1. I **will** see you tomorrow.
2. The meeting **will** start soon.
3. She **will not** be here next week.
4. It **will not** be easy to pass the exam.

**Point 2:** The negative form of **will** is **will not**, but we often contract this to **won't** in spoken English. However, do not use contractions in formal writing.

1. We **won't** have enough money.
2. She **won't** get home until six.
3. The test **won't** be easy.
4. I **won't** travel this year.

**Point 3:** We use **will** to express a future action that is immediate.

- **Who will be at the meeting?**
- Everyone will be there.
- **When will it end?**
- I will end at noon, just before lunch.

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1. I'll call you tomorrow.
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Beginner 3 | Lesson 4 | Will - Future Tense

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**Todd:** Well, I **will get** away. I don't like the cold, so I **will go** to Thailand, and I will stay there and just work actually.

**Sarah:** Oh.



## Quiz

- 1) She says she will \_\_\_\_\_. ✓  
 a) go shopping  
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 a) Go out to a party  
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## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

will go	we'll have	we will	won't eat
I'll cook	will you	stay home	will get
they will	will sing	won't do	won't be

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Where will you go later tonight?
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Grammar Talks 3-05 Going To

## Plans for the Weekend

Two people talk about their plans for the weekend.

**Part 1:** Daniel talks about his plans.

**Hana:** Hello, how are you?

**Daniel:** I'm good thanks. How are you?

**Hana:** I'm good. So what are you going to do this weekend?

**Daniel:** Well, on Saturday I think I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ to the gym because I haven't been there for awhile. And then I think I need to clean my house because I didn't have time during the week, and it is a bit messy now. And in the evening, I think I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ dinner with my friends.

**Hana:** Are you going somewhere after dinner?

**Daniel:** I don't think so. I really want to \_\_\_\_\_ this weekend in a really relaxed way, so I don't think I'm going anywhere after dinner.

**Hana:** I see. How about Sunday?

**Daniel:** Well, Sunday, I'm not going to \_\_\_\_\_ anything in the morning. I really want to take - you know - a rest, and then I'm going to have lunch with my family cause I haven't \_\_\_\_\_ them for awhile, and then in the afternoon, there's this movie I really want to see, so I'm \_\_\_\_\_ to the cinema with my friends.



**Part 2:** Hana talks about her plans.

**Daniel:** Hey, Hana how are you?

**Hana:** I'm fine thank you. How are you?

**Daniel:** I'm fine thanks. So tell me, do you have any plans for the weekend?

**Hana:** Yes, I heard it's going to \_\_\_\_\_ a really nice day on Saturday, so I'm planning to go to the beach with my friends. The beach is three hours away so we are going to go by car, and we are \_\_\_\_\_ to have a barbecue, and I'm very excited.

**Hana:** In the evening we're going to have fireworks, so it's going to be very beautiful.



## Quiz

1) Who is going to go to the gym?

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

2) Who is going to the beach?

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

3) Who is going to see a movie?

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

4) Who is going to study for test?

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

be	seen	spend	have
come	stay	go	planning
do	study	going	wish

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What are you going to do this weekend?
- 2) Who are you going to see?
- 3) What are you going to wear?
- 4) Are you going to study English later today?
- 5) Is anyone going to call you later?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) I am going to dress casual.
  - ( ) Yes, my mom is probably going to ring me.
  - ( ) I am going to have dinner with a friend.
  - ( ) I am going to meet my best friend, Dave.
  - ( ) Yes, I am going to review some vocabulary.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Daniel:** So, are you going to \_\_\_\_\_ over at the beach?

**Hana:** No, we're going to \_\_\_\_\_ back so we'll be home quite late.

**Daniel:** So then what are you going to do on Sunday?

**Hana:** I think I'll be sleeping all morning and probably in the afternoon I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ because I have a maths exam on Monday.

**Daniel:** Oh, well, that's a shame. Well, I think I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ you good luck on your exam.

**Hana:** Have fun at the beach.

**Daniel:** Thank you.



## Grammar Notes

### Grammar Focus

**be + going to + base verb**

We use this structure, **going to**, to talk about future plans or intentions.

The words **going to** is often spoken as **gonna** in natural speech. Normally, we do not use this form in written English.

### Questions

What are you going to do?  
When are you going to get here?  
Who are you going to see?  
Where are you going to stay?  
Why are you going to do that?  
How are you going to get there?

### Affirmative

I am going to call you.  
You are going to be fine.  
She is going to make a lot of money.  
He is going to be sorry.  
It's going to rain soon.  
They are going to come by taxi.  
We are going to get in trouble.

### Negative

I am not going to say anything.  
You are not going to regret this.  
She is not going to work tonight.  
He's not going to call you.  
It is not going to happen.  
They are not going to play.  
We are not going to make it.

### Y/N Questions

**Are you going to eat that?**

Yes, I am.  
No, I'm not.

**Is she going to play?**

Yes, she is.  
No, she isn't.



Grammar Talks 3-05 Going To

## Plans for the Weekend

Two people talk about their plans for the weekend.

**Part 1:** Daniel talks about his plans.

**Hana:** Hello, how are you?

**Daniel:** I'm good thanks. How are you?

**Hana:** I'm good. So what are you going to do this weekend?

**Daniel:** Well, on Saturday I think I'm going to **go** to the gym because I haven't been there for awhile. And then I think I need to clean my house because I didn't have time during the week, and it is a bit messy now. And in the evening, I think I'm going to **have** dinner with my friends.

**Hana:** Are you going somewhere after dinner?

**Daniel:** I don't think so. I really want to **spend** this weekend in a really relaxed way, so I don't think I'm going anywhere after dinner.

**Hana:** I see. How about Sunday?

**Daniel:** Well, Sunday, I'm not going to **do** anything in the morning. I really want to take - you know - a rest, and then I'm going to have lunch with my family cause I haven't **seen** them for awhile, and then in the afternoon, there's this movie I really want to see, so I'm **going** to the cinema with my friends.



**Part 2:** Hana talks about her plans.

**Daniel:** Hey, Hana how are you?

**Hana:** I'm fine thank you. How are you?

**Daniel:** I'm fine thanks. So tell me, do you have any plans for the weekend?

**Hana:** Yes, I heard it's going to **be** a really nice day on Saturday, so I'm planning to go to the beach with my friends. The beach is three hours away so we are going to go by car, and we are **planning** to have a barbecue, and I'm very excited.

**Hana:** In the evening we're going to have fireworks, so it's going to be very beautiful.



## Quiz

1) Who is going to go to the gym? ✓

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

2) Who is going to the beach? ✓

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

3) Who is going to see a movie? ✓

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

4) Who is going to study for test? ✓

- a) He is
- b) She is
- c) They both are

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

be	seen	spend	have
come	stay	go	planning
do	study	going	wish

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What are you going to do this weekend?
- 2) Who are you going to see?
- 3) What are you going to wear?
- 4) Are you going to study English later today?
- 5) Is anyone going to call you later?

- ( 3 ) I am going to dress casual.
- ( 5 ) Yes, my mom is probably going to ring me.
- ( 2 ) I am going to have dinner with a friend.
- ( 1 ) I am going to meet my best friend, Dave.
- ( 4 ) Yes, I am going to review some vocabulary.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Daniel:** So, are you going to **stay** over at the beach?

**Hana:** No, we're going to **come** back so we'll be home quite late.

**Daniel:** So then what are you going to do on Sunday?

**Hana:** I think I'll be sleeping all morning and probably in the afternoon I'm going to **study** because I have a maths exam on Monday.

**Daniel:** Oh, well, that's a shame. Well, I think I'm going to **wish** you good luck on your exam.

**Hana:** Have fun at the beach.

**Daniel:** Thank you.



## Grammar Notes

### Grammar Focus

#### be + going to + base verb

We use this structure, **going to**, to talk about future plans or intentions.

The words **going to** is often spoken as **gonna** in natural speech. Normally, we do not use this form in written English.

#### Questions

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I am not going to say anything.  
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We are not going to make it.

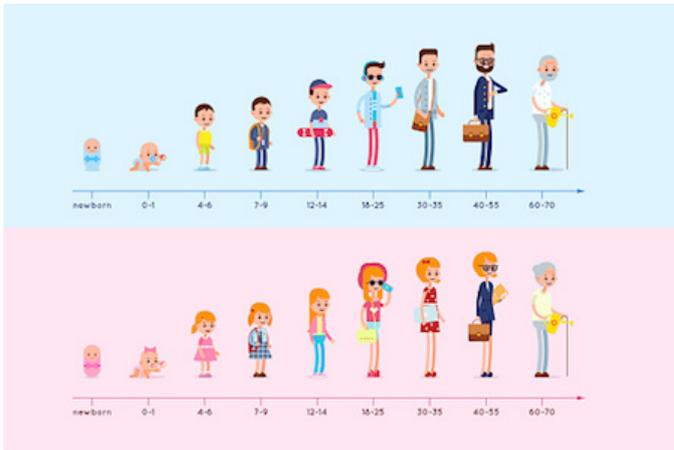
#### Y/N Questions

#### Are you going to eat that?

Yes, I am.  
No, I'm not.

#### Is she going to play?

Yes, she is.  
No, she isn't.



**Todd:** Hey Meg, so let's talk about our life history.

**Meg:** OK, let's do it.

**Todd:** So first, when \_\_\_\_\_ born?

**Meg:** I \_\_\_\_\_ in 1984.

**Todd:** I was born way before that. I was born in 1969

**Meg:** Oh!

**Todd:** Yeah, a ways ago.

**Meg:** Not too long ago.

**Todd:** Yeah, forty-seven years ago, but yeah.

**Meg:** OK, a long time ago.

**Todd:** OK, so when \_\_\_\_\_ graduate high school?

**Meg:** I \_\_\_\_\_ high school in 2003.

**Todd:** Oh my gosh. Really!

**Meg:** What \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Todd:** Wow, I graduated high school in 1987.

**Meg:** Ah, \_\_\_\_\_ three years old.

**Todd:** Wow, yeah! Ah, \_\_\_\_\_ probably about the same intelligent level.

**Meg:** No, that's not true.

**Todd:** And when did you graduate from college?

**Meg:** I graduated from college in 2010. When did you graduate from college?

**Todd:** I graduated from college in 1993, so like you I \_\_\_\_\_ little extra time to graduate.

**Meg:** Yeah, I \_\_\_\_\_ time than usual.

**Todd:** And when did you \_\_\_\_\_ first job?

**Meg:** I \_\_\_\_\_ first job when I was seventeen years old, I think. When I was still in high school.

**Todd:** What did you do?

**Meg:** I \_\_\_\_\_ at a wedding shop, a wedding dress shop, so I helped to assist the customers and clean the dresses.

**Todd:** That's a cool job.

**Meg:** Ah, it wasn't so great actually.



## Quiz

- 1) Who got fired?
  - a) He did
  - b) She did
  - c) Neither of them
- 2) Who was a babysitter?
  - a) He was
  - b) She was
  - c) Neither of them
- 3) What happened in 1984?
  - a) She was born
  - b) He finished high school
  - c) He met his friend
- 4) Who got a phone at age 17?
  - a) Just him
  - b) Just her
  - c) Both of them

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

worked	did you	took more	graduated
when I was	get your	was born	took a
got my	about you	we were	were you

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Did you clean your house today?
- 2) Did you study English today?
- 3) Did you call anyone today?
- 4) Did you check any social media accounts today?
- 5) Did you watch or read the news this morning?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Yes, I talked with my friend in Italy.  
 ( ) No, I didn't. It was not that dirty though.  
 ( ) Yes, I saw a few new posts from friends.  
 ( ) No, I did not. Did anything happen?  
 ( ) Yes, I reviewed vocabulary.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Todd:** Why?

**Meg:** Because brides can get a little crazy.

**Todd:** I can imagine.

**Meg:** What about you? What was your first job?

**Todd:** Well, my first unofficial job was when I was thirteen. I was a dishwasher.

**Meg:** Oh, at a restaurant.

**Todd:** Yeah, and I think it was illegal because I was 13, but yeah, I was a dishwasher, but then my first official job was at McDonald's

**Meg:** Oh, what did you do there?

**Todd:** I made the filet-o-fish. But I got fired

**Meg:** Oh, why?

**Todd:** Also, again I lied about my age, so actually wait, I was fourteen, and I lied and said I was fifteen and they fired me, but I worked there for three months.

**Meg:** Oh, and you got paid?

**Todd:** And I got paid.

**Meg:** Well, that's good at least.

**Todd:** It was good times. Good times.

**Meg:** (Laughter)

**Todd:** OK, so when did you meet your best friend?

**Meg:** I met my best friend in 2007, so about ten years ago. What about you?

**Todd:** Oh gosh, I met my best friend in high school, so I was a sophomore, a second year student, so that was 1984 or 1985.

**Meg:** Wow! So you've been best friends for a long time.

**Todd:** A long time, yeah, yep. So how about phones? When did you get your first phone?

**Meg:** Hmm! I think I got my first phone when I was also seventeen, the same year I had my first job. It was my first cell-phone, was that year. What about you?

**Todd:** Well, I got my first phone also when I was seventeen, but it was a real phone. My parents gave me my own phone line in my house, so I had a phone in my room. Back then that was common in the 80's, so young high school people would have their own phone in their house

**Meg:** Yeah, some of my friends had that when I was growing up also, but I wasn't lucky enough to get my own phone until I could pay for it myself.



## Grammar Notes

### Grammar Focus

The past tense refers to actions that happened and ended before the present time.

The **be verb** has two past tense forms, **was** and **were**. First and third person singular use **was**. We use the contraction **wasn't** in stead of **was not** in spoken English.

1. I **was** at home yesterday. I **wasn't** at work.
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Past tense verbs usually end with an **-ed** ending but only for affirmative sentences. For questions and negative statements we use **did** to express the past. See below.

- (Q) Where **did** you work?  
(A) I **worked** in an office.  
(N) I **did** not work in the city.

There are three ways to pronounce the **-ed** ending.

**-ed = /t/** Verbs ending with non voiced sound such as the following: -sh, -ch, -p, -k, -s, -t.

I washed the dishes  
I walked to work.  
I worked at my desk.  
I talked to my friend

**-ed = /d/** Verbs ending with voiced sound such as the following: -n, -y, -v, -m.

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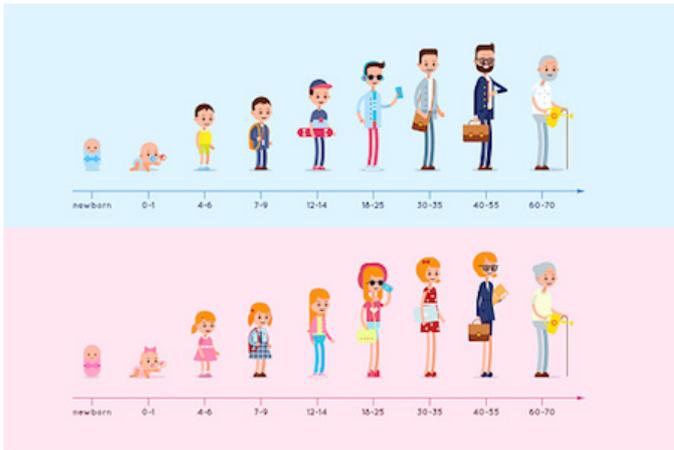
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I decided to stay.  
I needed to sleep.

### Negative

I did not work.  
I didn't sleep much.

**(did not = didn't)**



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**Meg:** OK, let's do it.

**Todd:** So first, when **were you** born?

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I needed to sleep.

### Negative

I did not work.  
I didn't sleep much.

**(did not = didn't)**



Grammar Talks 3-07 Past Tense Irregular

## SEA Adventure

Abidemi talks about her trip to Southeast Asia and what she did in various places.

**Todd:** Abidemi, what \_\_\_\_\_ you do for summer break?

**Abidemi:** For summer break, I \_\_\_\_\_ to visit some countries in Asia.

**Todd:** Oh, what countries?

**Abidemi:** I \_\_\_\_\_ Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Myanmar.

**Todd:** Oh, great. What did you do in each country?

**Abidemi:** In Thailand, I was there for about a week. I \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of delicious food and I \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of many nice people. I loved Thailand, so I hope to return again.

**Todd:** What foods did you eat?

**Abidemi:** I don't remember the names but I just remembered that they \_\_\_\_\_ all good. (Laughter)

**Todd:** Thai food is so good.

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** Did you go anymore in Thailand like the beach or the forest?

**Abidemi:** I was more interested in nature, so I \_\_\_\_\_ from Bangkok to Chiang Mai and Chang Rai, and I went **trekking** and \_\_\_\_\_ elephants. So that was one of the **highlights** of my trip.

**Todd:** Oh nice. How long was the trek?

**Abidemi:** The trek \_\_\_\_\_ about a day. It was a trek for 2, 3 hours but then we also \_\_\_\_\_ overnight in a community in the hills. And then the next day, we \_\_\_\_\_ for a little bit to come back to the city.

**Todd:** Nice. So was Thailand the first stop?

**Abidemi:** Yes. It was my first stop. It was supposed to be the shortest stop but I loved it so much that I \_\_\_\_\_ more time there.

**Todd:** After Thailand, where did you go?

**Abidemi:** From Thailand, I **moved on** by land to Laos.

**Todd:** And what did you do in Laos?

**Abidemi:** In Laos, I mainly was in the northern part of the country, and I went **zip-lining**.

**Todd:** Oh fun!



## Quiz

- 1) What did she do in Thailand?
  - a) She swam in the sea.
  - b) She took cooking classes.
  - c) She rode an elephant.
- 2) What did she do in Laos?
  - a) She slept in a treehouse.
  - b) She rode an elephant.
  - c) She ate spicy food.
- 3) What did she do in Vietnam?
  - a) She rented a motorbike.
  - b) She went to Hoi An.
  - c) She bought a dress.
- 4) What did she do in Myanmar?
  - a) She saw temples.
  - b) She rode in a balloon.
  - c) She went camping.
- 5) What country did she like the most?
  - a) Thailand
  - b) Myanmar
  - c) Vietnam

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

rode	went	trekked	met
stay	did	traveled	spent
were	was	visited	ate

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Where did you go yesterday?
- 2) Who did you meet?
- 3) What did you eat?
- 4) What did you wear?
- 5) When did you get to bed?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) I ate some pizza.  
 ( ) I went to the mall.  
 ( ) I just wore jeans and t-shirt.  
 ( ) I met my friend.  
 ( ) I got to sleep about midnight.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Abidemi:** It was fun. So—

**Todd:** So zip-lining is going flying from *tree to tree*?

**Abidemi:** That's correct. So that was about two days' worth of zip-lining, and we stayed overnight in a big tree house.

**Todd:** Oh, how fun.

**Abidemi:** It was *quite an experience*.

**Todd:** Nice.

**Abidemi:** I really enjoyed it.

**Todd:** So after Laos, where did you go?

**Abidemi:** After Laos, I flew to Vietnam. And actually I took the bus into Vietnam.

**Todd:** OK.

**Abidemi:** Yes. And in Vietnam, I traveled from the north, from Hanoi, to Ho Chi Minh City. But because my time was so short, I could only spend one or two days in each city.

**Todd:** Ah! What city did you like the most?

**Abidemi:** I think I prefer Hanoi the most. The food, the street food is amazing. It's a very lively city, lots of motorcycles and traffic so it reminded me of Nigeria where I was born a little bit.



**Todd:** Oh cool!

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** And what did you do in Vietnam?

**Abidemi:** I spent time in Hanoi. I also went to visit Sapa, which has a lot of rice *terraces*. So these are mountains where they've *planted* rice fields. So the scenery, the view is really beautiful. And you also get to meet the *native* people, the local people there. So I enjoyed it.

And then from there I went to Hoi An, which is a very historical city, very beautiful night *scenery* by the river. And then I went to Ho Chi Minh City but I could only spend one night there before leaving for Myanmar.

**Todd:** OK. And then, how was Myanmar? What did you do there?

**Abidemi:** Myanmar was my last stop. And I didn't have so much time there but I *managed* to go—but I managed to visit some of the places I really wanted to see like Yangon, Bagan, and Mandalay.

I would say that Bagan was the highlight. They had many temples from the past and just seeing that many of them, it was very *impressive*.

**Todd:** That's fantastic.

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** So what country was your favorite?

**Abidemi:** It's hard to say. They each have their own good points but I think I would definitely like to visit Thailand again.

**Todd:** Oh OK. Thailand is such a great place. Anyway, thanks Abidemi.

**Abidemi:** Thank you, Todd.

## Grammar Notes

### Grammar Notes

**Point 1:** Many verbs for the past tense take an irregular form, meaning the word does not use an /-ed/ ending.

1. I **was** late to the party. (be)
2. There **were** happy to see you. (be)
3. She **made** a lot of money on that deal. (make)
4. We **drove** to the beach. (drive)

**Point 2:** The **be verb** has two past tense forms, **was** and **were**. First and third person singular use **was**. We use the contraction **wasn't** in stead of **was not** in spoken English.

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3. We **were** happy with the food. We **weren't** disappointed.
4. You all **were** so noisy. You **weren't** very quiet!

**Point 4:** We use irregular verbs for about 100 verbs in English. Use the irregular forms in affirmative statements. In negative statement, we us **did not** + base verb.

1. I **saw** a ghost, but I **did not see** it for very long!
2. I **ate** a light breakfast. I **did not eat** eggs or toast.
3. I **saw** Bill at the party. I **did not see** Sue.
4. I **bought** a new car. I **did not buy** it for me though.



Grammar Talks 3-07 Past Tense Irregular

## SEA Adventure

Abidemi talks about her trip to Southeast Asia and what she did in various places.

**Todd:** Abidemi, what **did** you do for summer break?

**Abidemi:** For summer break, I **went** to visit some countries in Asia.

**Todd:** Oh, what countries?

**Abidemi:** I **visited** Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Myanmar.

**Todd:** Oh, great. What did you do in each country?

**Abidemi:** In Thailand, I was there for about a week. I **ate** a lot of delicious food and I **met** a lot of many nice people. I loved Thailand, so I hope to return again.

**Todd:** What foods did you eat?

**Abidemi:** I don't remember the names but I just remembered that they **were** all good. (Laughter)

**Todd:** Thai food is so good.

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** Did you go anymore in Thailand like the beach or the forest?

**Abidemi:** I was more interested in nature, so I **traveled** from Bangkok to Chiang Mai and Chang Rai, and I went **trekking** and **rode** elephants. So that was one of the **highlights** of my trip.

**Todd:** Oh nice. How long was the trek?

**Abidemi:** The trek **was** about a day. It was a trek for 2, 3 hours but then we also **stayed** overnight in a community in the hills. And then the next day, we **trekked** for a little bit to come back to the city.

**Todd:** Nice. So was Thailand the first stop?

**Abidemi:** Yes. It was my first stop. It was supposed to be the shortest stop but I loved it so much that I **spent** more time there.

**Todd:** After Thailand, where did you go?

**Abidemi:** From Thailand, I **moved on** by land to Laos.

**Todd:** And what did you do in Laos?

**Abidemi:** In Laos, I mainly was in the northern part of the country, and I went **zip-lining**.

**Todd:** Oh fun!



## Quiz

- 1) What did she do in Thailand? ✓  
 a) She swam in the sea.  
 b) She took cooking classes.  
 c) **She rode an elephant.**
- 2) What did she do in Laos? ✓  
 a) **She slept in a treehouse.**  
 b) She rode an elephant.  
 c) She ate spicy food.
- 3) What did she do in Vietnam? ✓  
 a) She rented a motorbike.  
 b) **She went to Hoi An.**  
 c) She bought a dress.
- 4) What did she do in Myanmar? ✓  
 a) **She saw temples.**  
 b) She rode in a balloon.  
 c) She went camping.
- 5) What country did she like the most? ✓  
 a) **Thailand**  
 b) Myanmar  
 c) Vietnam

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

rode	went	trekked	met
stay	did	traveled	spent
were	was	visited	ate

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Where did you go yesterday?
- 2) Who did you meet?
- 3) What did you eat?
- 4) What did you wear?
- 5) When did you get to bed?

- 
- (3) I ate some pizza.
  - (1) I went to the mall.
  - (4) I just wore jeans and t-shirt.
  - (2) I met my friend.
  - (5) I got to sleep about midnight.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Abidemi:** It was fun. So—

**Todd:** So zip-lining is going flying from *tree to tree*?

**Abidemi:** That's correct. So that was about two days' worth of zip-lining, and we stayed overnight in a big tree house.

**Todd:** Oh, how fun.

**Abidemi:** It was *quite an experience*.

**Todd:** Nice.

**Abidemi:** I really enjoyed it.

**Todd:** So after Laos, where did you go?

**Abidemi:** After Laos, I flew to Vietnam. And actually I took the bus into Vietnam.

**Todd:** OK.

**Abidemi:** Yes. And in Vietnam, I traveled from the north, from Hanoi, to Ho Chi Minh City. But because my time was so short, I could only spend one or two days in each city.

**Todd:** Ah! What city did you like the most?

**Abidemi:** I think I prefer Hanoi the most. The food, the street food is amazing. It's a very lively city, lots of motorcycles and traffic so it reminded me of Nigeria where I was born a little bit.



**Todd:** Oh cool!

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** And what did you do in Vietnam?

**Abidemi:** I spent time in Hanoi. I also went to visit Sapa, which has a lot of rice *terraces*. So these are mountains where they've *planted* rice fields. So the scenery, the view is really beautiful. And you also get to meet the *native* people, the local people there. So I enjoyed it.

And then from there I went to Hoi An, which is a very historical city, very beautiful night *scenery* by the river. And then I went to Ho Chi Minh City but I could only spend one night there before leaving for Myanmar.

**Todd:** OK. And then, how was Myanmar? What did you do there?

**Abidemi:** Myanmar was my last stop. And I didn't have so much time there but I *managed* to go—but I managed to visit some of the places I really wanted to see like Yangon, Bagan, and Mandalay.

I would say that Bagan was the highlight. They had many temples from the past and just seeing that many of them, it was very *impressive*.

**Todd:** That's fantastic.

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** So what country was your favorite?

**Abidemi:** It's hard to say. They each have their own good points but I think I would definitely like to visit Thailand again.

**Todd:** Oh OK. Thailand is such a great place. Anyway, thanks Abidemi.

**Abidemi:** Thank you, Todd.

## Grammar Notes

### Grammar Notes

**Point 1:** Many verbs for the past tense take an irregular form, meaning the word does not use an /-ed/ ending.

1. I **was** late to the party. (be)
2. There **were** happy to see you. (be)
3. She **made** a lot of money on that deal. (make)
4. We **drove** to the beach. (drive)

**Point 2:** The **be verb** has two past tense forms, **was** and **were**. First and third person singular use **was**. We use the contraction **wasn't** in stead of **was not** in spoken English.

1. I **was** at home yesterday. I **wasn't** at work.
2. It **was** a fun party. It **wasn't** boring at all.
3. He **was** sad all day. He **wasn't** happy.
4. She **was** a good teacher. She **wasn't** strict.

**Point 3:** All plural forms and second person singular use **were** and **were not**. We use the contraction **weren't** in stead of **were not** in spoken English.

1. You **were** right. You **weren't** wrong.
2. They **were** late. There **weren't** on time.
3. We **were** happy with the food. We **weren't** disappointed.
4. You all **were** so noisy. You **weren't** very quiet!

**Point 4:** We use irregular verbs for about 100 verbs in English. Use the irregular forms in affirmative statements. In negative statement, we us **did not** + base verb.

1. I **saw** a ghost, but I **did not see** it for very long!
2. I **ate** a light breakfast. I **did not eat** eggs or toast.
3. I **saw** Bill at the party. I **did not see** Sue.
4. I **bought** a new car. I **did not buy** it for me though.



Grammar Talks 3-08 Adjectives

## Adjectives

Abidemi and Todd play a word association game.

**Todd:** Abidemi, let's play the word association game.

**Abidemi:** Sure.

**Todd:** I say a word like \_\_\_\_\_, and you say a word like-

**Abidemi:** Russia.

**Todd:** Exactly. Okay, because Russia is a \_\_\_\_\_ country. Okay, the next word. \_\_\_\_\_?

**Abidemi:** Ants.

**Todd:** Yes, ants are very \_\_\_\_\_. Do you have ants in your house?

**Abidemi:** Thankfully, no.

**Todd:** Yeah, I no ants. I'm happy. Okay, next word. \_\_\_\_\_?

**Abidemi:** \_\_\_\_\_ movies.

**Todd:** I would agree. \_\_\_\_\_ movies are \_\_\_\_\_. **Boring?**

**Abidemi:** Sleeping.

**Todd:** That's a good answer. For me, sleeping is \_\_\_\_\_. How about you? What's relaxing?

**Abidemi:** Listening to music.

**Todd:** Yeah, that's a good one. Okay, how about \_\_\_\_\_?

**Abidemi:** Food.

**Todd:** And what food is \_\_\_\_\_ for you?

**Abidemi:** I love \_\_\_\_\_ food.

**Todd:** Such as?

**Abidemi:** Some Nigerian foods are \_\_\_\_\_ and Thai food is really \_\_\_\_\_ as well. I really love those.

**Todd:** Yeah, I don't like \_\_\_\_\_ food too much, but it's okay. Now, do you have a food that is not \_\_\_\_\_ for you?

**Abidemi:** I can't think of anything.

**Todd:** Everything's \_\_\_\_\_?

**Abidemi:** Just about. Well, in combination with other things.

**Todd:** For me, I would say \_\_\_\_\_ carrots. I hate \_\_\_\_\_ carrots. They're not \_\_\_\_\_.



## Quiz

1) According to her, what is small?

- a) mice
- b) ants
- c) dust

2) According to her, what is interesting?

- a) books
- b) films
- c) Both of them

3) According to her, what is delicious?

- a) sweet food
- b) spicy food
- c) savory food

4) According to her, what is difficult?

- a) math
- b) life
- c) languages

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

cooked	difficult	young	old
interesting	delicious	relaxing	spicy
challenging	wonderful	boring	healthy
big	small	digital	foreign
easy	inexpensive	cheap	raw

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Is your town clean or dirty?
- 2) Is your town cheap or expensive?
- 3) Is your town safe or dangerous?
- 4) Is your town boring or interesting?
- 5) Is your usually town warm or cold?

- 
- ( ) It is a fun place, but is not exciting for young people.
  - ( ) It is safe, but some areas are very dangerous.
  - ( ) It is both, super hot in summer and freezing in winter.
  - ( ) It is very pricy, but some things are affordable.
  - ( ) It is really filthy, but the rich areas are spotless

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Abidemi:** I think of them as being healthy.

**Todd:** Yeah. \_\_\_\_\_ carrots, but not \_\_\_\_\_ carrots. Okay, back to the game. Okay, the next word. \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** My grandmother.

**Todd:** Really? How \_\_\_\_\_ is your grandmother?

**Abidemi:** She's past 100 years \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** Really?

**Abidemi:** And she still walks and moves on her own.

**Todd:** Wow.

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** So is she \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Abidemi:** She's very \_\_\_\_\_ . I like that.

**Todd:** Okay, the next word. \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** My nieces are \_\_\_\_\_ . I have a two-year-old niece and an eight-year-old niece.

**Todd:** Okay, cool. Okay, next. \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** Reading books. I love reading a lot.

**Todd:** Yeah, books are \_\_\_\_\_ . Are books more \_\_\_\_\_ than movies?

**Abidemi:** Good question. I would say yes.

**Todd:** Yeah, me too. What about \_\_\_\_\_ ? What's \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Abidemi:** Doing nothing. Having nothing to do. I find that \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** True, yeah. Okay, how about \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Abidemi:** Life can be \_\_\_\_\_ sometimes.

**Todd:** Yeah, life can be \_\_\_\_\_ . And \_\_\_\_\_ ? What's \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Abidemi:** Nothing is \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** Yeah, as they say, nothing is \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** Nothing is \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** So true. Okay, \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** Cars. Some cars are \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** Yeah, I think all cars are \_\_\_\_\_ , right? What about \_\_\_\_\_ , or \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Abidemi:** Books. Some books are \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** Yeah, these days. Do you read paper books or \_\_\_\_\_ books?

**Abidemi:** I read \_\_\_\_\_ books.

**Todd:** Yeah, \_\_\_\_\_ books can be very \_\_\_\_\_ . Used books can be very \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** That's true.

**Todd:** I loved used books. Okay, last question is \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Abidemi:** Life, even though it can be \_\_\_\_\_ , it's also \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Todd:** I like it. It's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ . Thanks, Abidemi.

## Grammar Notes

### Adjectives

Use adjectives to show the quality of something.

**Point 1:** Adjectives are often used after a be very to describe the subject.

1. He is funny.
2. It is hot today.
3. My house is old.
4. You are so nice!

**Point 2:** The be verb can change tenses, and the adjective does not change form.

1. He was happy.
2. It will be hot tomorrow.
3. My house was old and cold.
4. You can be nice at time.

**Point 3:** We sometimes add **very** and **really** to show greater intensity of a trait.

1. Tokyo is really crowded.
2. Rome is very old.
3. She is really nice.
4. He is very strict.

**Point 4:** Adjectives can also describe a noun. If the noun has a determiner or quantifier, it goes between them and the noun.

1. Russia is a big country.
2. She is a nice lady.
3. It was a difficult test.
4. I bought some really nice shoes.





Grammar Talks 3-08 Adjectives

## Adjectives

Abidemi and Todd play a word association game.

**Todd:** Abidemi, let's play the word association game.

**Abidemi:** Sure.

**Todd:** I say a word like **big**, and you say a word like-

**Abidemi:** Russia.

**Todd:** Exactly. Okay, because Russia is a **big** country. Okay, the next word. **Small**.

**Abidemi:** Ants.

**Todd:** Yes, ants are very **small**. Do you have ants in your house?

**Abidemi:** Thankfully, no.

**Todd:** Yeah, I no ants. I'm happy. Okay, next word. **Interesting**.

**Abidemi:** Foreign movies.

**Todd:** I would agree. **Foreign** movies are **interesting**. Boring.

**Abidemi:** Sleeping.

**Todd:** That's a good answer. For me, sleeping is **relaxing**. How about you? What's relaxing?

**Abidemi:** Listening to music.

**Todd:** Yeah, that's a good one. Okay, how about **delicious**?

**Abidemi:** Food.

**Todd:** And what food is **delicious** for you?

**Abidemi:** I love **spicy** food.

**Todd:** Such as?

**Abidemi:** Some Nigerian foods are **spicy** and Thai food is really **spicy** as well. I really love those.

**Todd:** Yeah, I don't like **spicy** food too much, but it's okay. Now, do you have a food that is not **delicious** for you?

**Abidemi:** I can't think of anything.

**Todd:** Everything's **delicious**?

**Abidemi:** Just about. Well, in combination with other things.

**Todd:** For me, I would say **cooked** carrots. I hate **cooked** carrots. They're not **delicious**.



## Quiz

- 1) According to her, what is small? ✓  
a) mice  
**b) ants**  
c) dust
- 2) According to her, what is interesting? ✓  
a) books  
b) films  
**c) Both of them**
- 3) According to her, what is delicious? ✓  
a) sweet food  
**b) spicy food**  
c) savory food
- 4) According to her, what is difficult? ✓  
a) math  
**b) life**  
c) languages

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

cooked	difficult	young	old
interesting	delicious	relaxing	spicy
challenging	wonderful	boring	healthy
big	small	digital	foreign
easy	inexpensive	cheap	raw

## Speaking Challenge

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- ( 4 ) It is a fun place, but is not exciting for young people.
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**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Abidemi:** I think of them as being healthy.

**Todd:** Yeah. **Raw** carrots, but not **cooked** carrots. Okay, back to the game. Okay, the next word. **Old**.

**Abidemi:** My grandmother.

**Todd:** Really? How **old** is your grandmother?

**Abidemi:** She's past 100 years **old**.

**Todd:** Really?

**Abidemi:** And she still walks and moves on her own.

**Todd:** Wow.

**Abidemi:** Yes.

**Todd:** So is she **healthy**?

**Abidemi:** She's very **healthy**. I like that.

**Todd:** Okay, the next word. **Young**.

**Abidemi:** My nieces are **young**. I have a two-year-old niece and an eight-year-old niece.

**Todd:** Okay, cool. Okay, next. **Interesting**.

**Abidemi:** Reading books. I love reading a lot.

**Todd:** Yeah, books are **interesting**. Are books more **interesting** than movies?

**Abidemi:** Good question. I would say yes.

**Todd:** Yeah, me too. What about **boring**? What's **boring**?

**Abidemi:** Doing nothing. Having nothing to do. I find that **boring**.

**Todd:** True, yeah. Okay, how about **difficult**?

**Abidemi:** Life can be **difficult** sometimes.

**Todd:** Yeah, life can be **difficult**. And **easy**? What's **easy**?

**Abidemi:** Nothing is **easy**.

**Todd:** Yeah, as they say, nothing is **easy**.

**Abidemi:** Nothing is **easy**.

**Todd:** So true. Okay, **expensive**.

**Abidemi:** Cars. Some cars are **expensive**.

**Todd:** Yeah, I think all cars are **expensive**, right? What about **cheap**, or **inexpensive**?

**Abidemi:** Books. Some books are **cheap**.

**Todd:** Yeah, these days. Do you read paper books or **digital** books?

**Abidemi:** I read **digital** books.

**Todd:** Yeah, **digital** books can be very **cheap**. Used books can be very **cheap**.

**Abidemi:** That's true.

**Todd:** I loved used books. Okay, last question is **wonderful**.

**Abidemi:** Life, even though it can be **challenging**, it's also **wonderful**.

**Todd:** I like it. It's **difficult** and **wonderful**. Thanks, Abidemi.

## Grammar Notes

### Adjectives

Use adjectives to show the quality of something.

**Point 1:** Adjectives are often used after a be very to describe the subject.

1. He is funny.
2. It is hot today.
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1. Russia is a big country.
2. She is a nice lady.
3. It was a difficult test.
4. I bought some really nice shoes.





Grammar Talks 3-09 Comparatives

## Comparatives

Listen to someone compare two famous cities in California.

**Aimee:** So Todd, you said before, that your mom is from San Francisco.

**Todd:** Yes. No, my dad is from San Francisco.

**Aimee:** So, your dad is from San Francisco and your mom is from Los Angeles.

**Todd:** Yes, that's right.

**Aimee:** Okay, so which city is better?

**Todd:** Ooh, wow. They both are great American cities. They are very, very different. I think San Francisco is \_\_\_\_\_ but I think people in LA think LA is better. So it's tough. Yeah.

**Aimee:** So, is LA \_\_\_\_\_ than San Francisco?

**Todd:** Yes, it is much, much much bigger. LA is huge. It is about 10 million people, maybe more.

**Aimee:** That is huge.

**Todd:** Yeah. San Francisco is only one million people.

**Aimee:** Oh, that's tiny.

**Todd:** Yeah, it's much \_\_\_\_\_ than LA.

**Aimee:** Okay.

**Todd:** Yeah, much smaller.

**Aimee:** Okay. And is LA more \_\_\_\_\_ than San Francisco.

**Todd:** I don't think so. LA is expensive but San Francisco is more expensive. San Francisco is maybe the most expensive city in the US. Because of Google, Yahoo, Apple, all these famous companies.

**Aimee:** Yes, they are big companies.

**Todd:** So it's big, there's many rich companies there and the space is very small so it's expensive.

**Aimee:** Right, okay. And so about the weather? Is LA \_\_\_\_\_ than San Francisco?



## Quiz

- 1) Which city is warmer?
  - a) San Francisco
  - b) Los Angeles
  - c) He does not say
- 2) Which city is more expensive?
  - a) San Francisco
  - b) Los Angeles
  - c) He does not say
- 3) Which city is older?
  - a) San Francisco
  - b) Los Angeles
  - c) He does not say
- 4) Which city is better according to him?
  - a) San Francisco
  - b) Los Angeles
  - c) He does not say
- 5) Which city is better for hiking?
  - a) San Francisco
  - b) Los Angeles
  - c) He does not say

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

prettier	better	easy-going	wetter
warmer	colder	bigger	interesting
exciting	expensive	friendlier	smaller

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What is more delicious, apples or oranges?
- 2) What is more playful, cats or dogs?
- 3) What is more convenient, driving or public transportation?
- 4) What is cheaper, fast food or eating at home?
- 5) What is more interesting, learning languages or history?

- ( ) Driving is much more convenient.  
 ( ) Language is much more interesting.  
 ( ) I think dogs are more playful.  
 ( ) I think apples are tastier.  
 ( ) Cooking at home is much cheaper.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Todd:** Yeah, it's much warmer. It's much, much warmer. LA has beautiful weather so most days it's warm, no clouds, maybe 25 degrees Celsius.

**Aimee:** That sound so nice.

**Todd:** Or above. Beautiful. San Francisco is much \_\_\_\_\_ and it's much \_\_\_\_\_. It rains a lot in San Francisco.

**Aimee:** I know that. What about the looks? Is LA \_\_\_\_\_ than San Francisco?

**Todd:** No, not at all.

**Aimee:** No?

**Todd:** No, not at all. San Francisco is much prettier. LA is pretty but San Francisco much prettier. It's near the sea, it's near nature. It has lots of beautiful buildings downtown. I think San Francisco is prettier but maybe people in Los Angeles think LA is prettier but I don't think so.

**Aimee:** Okay. You disagree with them.

**Todd:** I do disagree.

**Aimee:** So how are those people? Are the people nicer in LA?

**Todd:** I don't think so. I think the people in San Francisco are \_\_\_\_\_. People in Los Angeles are a little reserved. They are not as friendly.

**Aimee:** There are more people really.

**Todd:** There are, it is true. It's a big city. I think people are nicer and more \_\_\_\_\_ in San Francisco.

**Aimee:** Okay. So now that we have talked about it, is LA better than San Francisco?

**Todd:** No. No. I think, yeah, somebody from LA will disagree but I will say this, Los Angeles is maybe more \_\_\_\_\_ and is more \_\_\_\_\_ than San Francisco. There's lots to do there. It has the beach and it has lots of cool places like Disneyland. So LA is a really great place.

**Aimee:** LA has hills for hiking too, doesn't it?

**Todd:** A little bit, not close. Actually San Francisco is closer to nature and hiking.

**Aimee:** Is it?

**Todd:** Yeah.

**Aimee:** Okay, I didn't know that.

**Todd:** So, you can choose on my description which city sounds more interesting.

**Aimee:** I want to go to both but I think I would prefer to go San Francisco.

**Todd:** Yay. We need more people. No actually we don't need more people.



## Grammar Notes

### Comparatives

Use the comparative to show that something has a greater quality of some trait compared to another subject.

#### One Syllable / -er

**small – smaller** This book is smaller than that book.

**cold – colder** Alaska is colder than Hawaii.

**young – younger** You are younger than your parents.

#### One Syllable ends in /e/ -r

**safe – safer** Japan is safer than most countries.

**nice – nicer** The weather is nicer in summer.

**close – closer** His house is closer to the airport than mine.

#### Consonant + vowel + Consonant -(x)er

**hot – hotter** It is usually hotter at noon than midnight.

**big – bigger** My town is bigger than before.

**fat – fatter** I am always a little fatter after the holidays.

#### Two Syllable ends in /y/ -ier

**happy – happier** I am happier now than before.

**angry – angrier** The boss is angrier in the morning.

**pretty – prettier** That shirt looked prettier on you.

#### Two or More Syllables >> more -

**dangerous – more dangerous**

The city is more dangerous now.

**expensive – more expensive**

Everything is more expensive these days.

**difficult – more difficult**

This test is more difficult than the last one.

#### Irregular

**good – better** Life was better before.

**bad – worse** I am still sick. I feel worse than yesterday.



Grammar Talks 3-09 Comparatives

## Comparatives

Listen to someone compare two famous cities in California.

**Aimee:** So Todd, you said before, that your mom is from San Francisco.

**Todd:** Yes. No, my dad is from San Francisco.

**Aimee:** So, your dad is from San Francisco and your mom is from Los Angeles.

**Todd:** Yes, that's right.

**Aimee:** Okay, so which city is better?

**Todd:** Ooh, wow. They both are great American cities. They are very, very different. I think San Francisco is **better** but I think people in LA think LA is better. So it's tough. Yeah.

**Aimee:** So, is LA **bigger** than San Francisco?

**Todd:** Yes, it is much, much much bigger. LA is huge. It is about 10 million people, maybe more.

**Aimee:** That is huge.

**Todd:** Yeah. San Francisco is only one million people.

**Aimee:** Oh, that's tiny.

**Todd:** Yeah, it's much **smaller** than LA.

**Aimee:** Okay.

**Todd:** Yeah, much smaller.

**Aimee:** Okay. And is LA more **expensive** than San Francisco.

**Todd:** I don't think so. LA is expensive but San Francisco is more expensive. San Francisco is maybe the most expensive city in the US. Because of Google, Yahoo, Apple, all these famous companies.

**Aimee:** Yes, they are big companies.

**Todd:** So it's big, there's many rich companies there and the space is very small so it's expensive.

**Aimee:** Right, okay. And so about the weather? Is LA **warmer** than San Francisco?



## Quiz

- 1) Which city is warmer? ✓  
 a) San Francisco  
**b) Los Angeles**  
 c) He does not say
- 2) Which city is more expensive? ✓  
**a) San Francisco**  
 b) Los Angeles  
 c) He does not say
- 3) Which city is older? ✓  
 a) San Francisco  
 b) Los Angeles  
**c) He does not say**
- 4) Which city is better according to him? ✓  
**a) San Francisco**  
 b) Los Angeles  
 c) He does not say
- 5) Which city is better for hiking? ✓  
**a) San Francisco**  
 b) Los Angeles  
 c) He does not say

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

prettier	better	easy-going	wetter
warmer	colder	bigger	interesting
exciting	expensive	friendlier	smaller

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What is more delicious, apples or oranges?
- 2) What is more playful, cats or dogs?
- 3) What is more convenient, driving or public transportation?
- 4) What is cheaper, fast food or eating at home?
- 5) What is more interesting, learning languages or history?

- ( 3 ) Driving is much more convenient.  
 ( 5 ) Language is much more interesting.  
 ( 2 ) I think dogs are more playful.  
 ( 1 ) I think apples are tastier.  
 ( 4 ) Cooking at home is much cheaper.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Todd:** Yeah, it's much warmer. It's much, much warmer. LA has beautiful weather so most days it's warm, no clouds, maybe 25 degrees Celsius.

**Aimee:** That sound so nice.

**Todd:** Or above. Beautiful. San Francisco is much **colder** and it's much **wetter**. It rains a lot in San Francisco.

**Aimee:** I know that. What about the looks? Is LA **prettier** than San Francisco?

**Todd:** No, not at all.

**Aimee:** No?

**Todd:** No, not at all. San Francisco is much prettier. LA is pretty but San Francisco much prettier. It's near the sea, it's near nature. It has lots of beautiful buildings downtown. I think San Francisco is prettier but maybe people in Los Angeles think LA is prettier but I don't think so.

**Aimee:** Okay. You disagree with them.

**Todd:** I do disagree.

**Aimee:** So how are those people? Are the people nicer in LA?

**Todd:** I don't think so. I think the people in San Francisco are **friendlier**. People in Los Angeles are a little reserved. They are not as friendly.

**Aimee:** There are more people really.

**Todd:** There are, it is true. It's a big city. I think people are nicer and more **easy-going** in San Francisco.

**Aimee:** Okay. So now that we have talked about it, is LA better than San Francisco?

**Todd:** No. No. I think, yeah, somebody from LA will disagree but I will say this, Los Angeles is maybe more **exciting** and is more **interesting** than San Francisco. There's lots to do there. It has the beach and it has lots of cool places like Disneyland. So LA is a really great place.

**Aimee:** LA has hills for hiking too, doesn't it?

**Todd:** A little bit, not close. Actually San Francisco is closer to nature and hiking.

**Aimee:** Is it?

**Todd:** Yeah.

**Aimee:** Okay, I didn't know that.

**Todd:** So, you can choose on my description which city sounds more interesting.

**Aimee:** I want to go to both but I think I would prefer to go San Francisco.

**Todd:** Yay. We need more people. No actually we don't need more people.



## Grammar Notes

### Comparatives

Use the comparative to show that something has a greater quality of some trait compared to another subject.

#### One Syllable / -er

**small – smaller** This book is smaller than that book.

**cold – colder** Alaska is colder than Hawaii.

**young – younger** You are younger than your parents.

#### One Syllable ends in /e/ -r

**safe – safer** Japan is safer than most countries.

**nice – nicer** The weather is nicer in summer.

**close – closer** His house is closer to the airport than mine.

#### Consonant + vowel + Consonant -(x)er

**hot – hotter** It is usually hotter at noon than midnight.

**big – bigger** My town is bigger than before.

**fat – fatter** I am always a little fatter after the holidays.

#### Two Syllable ends in /y/ -ier

**happy – happier** I am happier now than before.

**angry – angrier** The boss is angrier in the morning.

**pretty – prettier** That shirt looked prettier on you.

#### Two or More Syllables >> more -

**dangerous – more dangerous**

The city is more dangerous now.

**expensive – more expensive**

Everything is more expensive these days.

**difficult – more difficult**

This test is more difficult than the last one.

#### Irregular

**good – better** Life was better before.

**bad – worse** I am still sick. I feel worse than yesterday.



Grammar Talks 3-10 Superlatives

### City Superlatives

Todd talks about the best and worst of his hometown and the nicest places to live and why.

**Sarah:** Hi, Todd.

**Todd:** Hey, Sarah. How are you?

**Sarah:** Good. How are you?

**Todd:** Not bad.

**Sarah:** So I heard you are from San Francisco.

**Todd:** That's right. Yeah, I was born there and I lived in the city for many years.

**Sarah:** Cool. What is the most \_\_\_\_\_ thing about your city?

**Todd:** Well, San Francisco has many interesting things, but the most interesting thing is probably the **architecture**. There's lots of very unique buildings. And the most \_\_\_\_\_ building is probably the Trans-America building. It's a building like a **pyramid**. It's nice.

**Sarah:** Well, that's really cool.

**Todd:** Uh-hmm.

**Sarah:** What is the most \_\_\_\_\_ area in San Francisco?

**Todd:** Well, it is very, very expensive. The most expensive area is a place called Pacific Heights, and it's on the \_\_\_\_\_ hill in San Francisco and it **overlooks** the Bay. It's a really, really beautiful place.

**Sarah:** Hmm.

**Todd:** That area **by far** has the best views of the city.

**Sarah:** Hmm, what is the most \_\_\_\_\_ place in San Francisco?

**Todd:** Well, actually the most beautiful place is outside the city. It's a place called Muir Woods. And it has the \_\_\_\_\_ trees in the world, and some of these trees are really old. They are the \_\_\_\_\_ trees in North America. Some of them are **over** 2,000 years old.

**Sarah:** Wow. It sounds like some place



### Quiz

- 1) The nicest area is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) by the beach
  - b) on a hill
  - c) downtown
- 2) The Trans-America building looks like a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) map
  - b) egg
  - c) pyramid
- 3) Pacific Heights overlooks \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) the bay
  - b) a park
  - c) downtown
- 4) The trees in Muir Woods are over \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) 2000 feet tall
  - b) 2000 years old
  - c) 200 feet wide
- 5) The Sunset area is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) expensive
  - b) cheap
  - c) ugly

### Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

beautiful	best	cheapest	expensive
interesting	highest	coldest	nicest
worst	oldest	unique	tallest

### Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) What is the best time to visit your country?
- 2) What is the most beautiful city in your country?
- 3) What area has the friendliest people?
- 4) What area has the most interesting history?
- 5) What month has the nicest weather?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Boston, because it is the oldest major city.  
 ( ) The fall. It is the nicest season.  
 ( ) Seattle. It has the best views.  
 ( ) I think August has the best weather.  
 ( ) The nicest people are in the South.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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I would like to see. So it sounds really expensive. Where is the \_\_\_\_\_ place to live?

**Todd:** The cheapest place to live is a place called Sunset. And Sunset is on the west side, and the houses are kind of old and they're a little bit cheap. But one thing about Sunset is it has \_\_\_\_\_ view of the ocean, and you could watch the sunset every night. That's why it's called the Sunset area.

**Sarah:** Hmm. If I wanted to go there, when is the \_\_\_\_\_ time to visit?

**Todd:** Well, the best time is probably in the fall because that's when the weather is the nicest. It's not too cold, and it's not too hot. And it doesn't rain that much.

**Sarah:** So when would be the \_\_\_\_\_ time to visit?

**Todd:** The worst time to visit would be probably February and March, because February and March are the \_\_\_\_\_ and wettest months. So – well, March isn't that cold but sometimes it's wet, so it rains a lot.

**Sarah:** Wow. That sounds really great. I want to go there.

**Todd:** Yeah, you should. It's great place.

## Grammar Notes

### Superlatives

Use the superlative to show that something has the highest quality of some trait within a group of subjects.

#### One Syllable -est

**small – smallest** - This is my smallest pan.

**cold – coldest** - Winter is the coldest time of the year.

**young – youngest** - This is my youngest sister.

#### One Syllable ends in /e/ -st

**safe – safest** - This is not the safest place to live.

**nice – nicest** - He is the nicest person in the office.

**close – closest** - This is the closest shop to my house.

#### Consonant + vowel + Consonant -(x)est

**hot – hottest** - Florida is the hottest state in America.

**big – biggest** - Tokyo is the biggest city in Japan.

**wet – wettest** - April is the wettest month of the year.

#### Two Syllable ends in /y/ -iest

**happy – happiest** - I am happiest when I am at home.

**angry – angriest** - He is the angriest man I know.

**pretty – prettiest** - This is the prettiest part of town.

#### Two or More Syllables most --

**dangerous – most dangerous**

This is the most dangerous part of town.

**expensive – most expensive**

This is the most expensive restaurant in my city.

**difficult – most difficult**

This is the most difficult part of the test.

#### Irregular

**good – best** - Do you best!

**bad – worst** - This was my worst performance.



Grammar Talks 3-10 Superlatives

### City Superlatives

Todd talks about the best and worst of his hometown and the nicest places to live and why.

**Sarah:** Hi, Todd.

**Todd:** Hey, Sarah. How are you?

**Sarah:** Good. How are you?

**Todd:** Not bad.

**Sarah:** So I heard you are from San Francisco.

**Todd:** That's right. Yeah, I was born there and I lived in the city for many years.

**Sarah:** Cool. What is the most **interesting** thing about your city?

**Todd:** Well, San Francisco has many interesting things, but the most interesting thing is probably the **architecture**. There's lots of very unique buildings. And the most **unique** building is probably the Trans-America building. It's a building like a **pyramid**. It's nice.

**Sarah:** Well, that's really cool.

**Todd:** Uh-hmm.

**Sarah:** What is the most **expensive** area in San Francisco?

**Todd:** Well, it is very, very expensive. The most expensive area is a place called Pacific Heights, and it's on the **highest** hill in San Francisco and it **overlooks** the Bay. It's a really, really beautiful place.

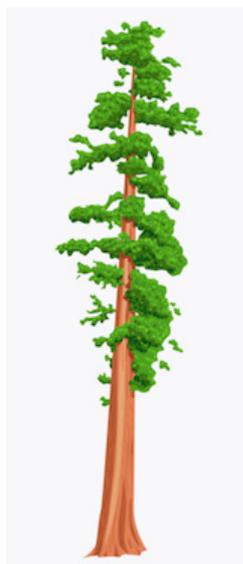
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**Sarah:** Hmm, what is the most **beautiful** place in San Francisco?

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**Sarah:** Wow. It sounds like some place I would like to see. So it sounds really



### Quiz

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**b) cheap**  
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### Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- |             |         |          |           |
|-------------|---------|----------|-----------|
| beautiful   | best    | cheapest | expensive |
| interesting | highest | coldest  | nicest    |
| worst       | oldest  | unique   | tallest   |

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**Todd:** Well, the best time is probably in the fall because that's when the weather is the nicest. It's not too cold, and it's not too hot. And it doesn't rain that much.

**Sarah:** So when would be the **worst** time to visit?

**Todd:** The worst time to visit would be probably February and March, because February and March are the **coldest** and **wettest** months. So – well, March isn't that cold but sometimes it's wet, so it rains a lot.

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