

33 too, enough



1 too

We use *too* + adjective if something is bigger or more than we want or like.
We use *too* + adverb if something is faster, later, etc. than is good or safe.

too + ADJECTIVE

This jacket's too big. (bigger than I want)
£75 is too expensive!
(more expensive than I want)

too + ADVERB

You'll be sick if you eat too quickly.
(faster than is good or safe)
I got up too late and missed the bus.

too much, too many ► Unit 9.2

Compare *too* and *very*:

It's very hot today. (This is a fact.)

It's too hot today. (It's hotter than I want or like.)

2 (not) enough

If something is *enough*, it is the correct size, amount, speed, etc. for what we want:

ADJECTIVE + enough

This jacket isn't big enough. (smaller than I want)
Are these jeans long enough?
He can learn to drive now. He's old enough.

ADVERB + enough

I can't understand the teacher.
She doesn't speak slowly enough.
(= She speaks too quickly.)

! *X Our car isn't enough big for six people.*

✓ *Our car isn't big enough for six people.*

We can also use *(not) enough* before a plural or uncountable noun:

Do we have enough plates for fifteen people?

Can you pay for this? I don't have enough money.

3 too/not enough to do something

We use *too/not enough to do something* to say why something isn't possible:

*My sister can't vote
because she's too young.*

too + ADJECTIVE

*My sister's too young
to vote.*

not + ADJECTIVE + enough

*My sister isn't old enough
to vote.*