

Grammar reference

Unit 1

➔ 1.1 Information questions

- 1 *What* and *which* can be followed by a noun.

What colour are your eyes?
What size shoes do you take?
What sort of music do you like?
Which part of town do you live in?
Which way do we go?
Which one do you want?

We use *which* when there is a limited choice.

Which one do you want, the red one or the blue one?
Which restaurant shall we go to?

We use *what* when there is (almost) unlimited choice.

What language do they speak in Brazil?
What car do you drive?

Sometimes there is no difference.

What/Which newspaper do you read?
What/Which channel is the football on?

- 2 *Whose* can be followed by a noun.

Whose book is this? **Whose** is this book?

- 3 *How* can be followed by an adjective or an adverb.

How tall are you?
How big is the hotel?
How far is it to the station?
How often do you go to the cinema?
How long does it take you to get ready?

- 4 *How* can be followed by *much* or *many*.

How many rooms are there? **How much** money do you have?

➔ 1.2 What ... like? How ... ?

- 1 *What ... like?* asks about the permanent nature of people and things. It asks for a general description.

What's Indian food like? Really tasty.
What's Pete like? He's a great guy.

- 2 *How ... ?* asks about the present condition of something. This condition can change.

How's work these days? It's better than last year.
How was the traffic this morning? It was worse than usual.

To ask about the weather, we can use both questions.

How's the weather where you are?
What's the weather like

- 3 *How ... ?* asks about people's health and happiness and can ask for reactions and feelings.

How's Peter? He's fine.
How's your meal? **How's** your new job?

Unit 2

➔ 2.1 Verbs

- 1 There are three classes of verbs in English.

Auxiliary verbs *do, be, and have*

These are used to help form tenses of other verbs, and to show forms such as questions and negatives.

Modal auxiliary verbs

Must, can, should, might, will, and would are examples of modal auxiliary verbs. They 'help' other verbs, but unlike *do, be, and have*, they have their own meanings. For example, *must* expresses obligation; *can* expresses ability. (See Units 5, 8, 9, 10)

Full verbs

These are **all** the other verbs in the language, for example, *play, run, help, think, want, go, see, eat, enjoy, live, die, swim*, etc.

- 2 *Do, be, and have* can also be used as full verbs with their own meanings.

do I **do** my washing on Saturdays.

be We **are** in class at the moment.

have They **have** three children.

- 3 There are two forms of *have* in the present, *have* and *have got*.

I **have** a job. Do you **have** a flat? He **doesn't have** a car.
 I've **got** a job. **Have** you **got** a flat? She **hasn't got** a car.

➔ 2.2 Auxiliary verbs and tenses

- 1 **be and the continuous forms**

Be + verb + -ing is used to make continuous verb forms which describe activities in progress and temporary activities.

He's **washing** his hair. (Present Continuous)
 We **were watching** TV at 9.00. (Past Continuous)
 I've **been learning** English for two years. (Present Perfect Continuous)
 I'd like **to be lying** on the beach right now. (Continuous infinitive)

- 2 **be and the passive voice**

Be + past participle is used to form the passive.

Paper **is made** from wood. (Present Simple passive)
 My car **was stolen** yesterday. (Past Simple passive)
 The house **has been** redecorated. (Present Perfect passive)
 This homework **needs to be done** tonight. (Passive infinitive)

There is an introduction to the passive on **p143**.

- 3 **have and the perfect forms**

Have + past participle is used to make perfect verb forms.

He **has worked** in seven different countries. (Present Perfect)
 She was crying because she **had received** some bad news
 (Past Perfect)
 I'd like **to have met** Napoleon. (Perfect infinitive)

Perfect means 'completed', so Present Perfect means 'completed now'. Past perfect means 'completed before a time in the past'.

➔ 2.3 Auxiliary verbs and negatives

- 1 To make a negative, add *-n't* to the auxiliary verb. If there is no