

Everyday English Numbers

1 Work in pairs. Decide or guess which numbers in A go with the statistics in B.

A

1½ 69 492 0.5% 120,000 1 in 8,000
 48% 2 1 to 1.6 m 1 in 11,000,000

B

a the average number of hours a day a giraffe sleeps
 b the number of hours it takes to hard boil an ostrich egg
 c the number of litres of water stored inside a baobab tree
 d the ratio of humans to ants on the planet
 e the highest number of children that have been born to one woman
 f the chances of dying in a road accident
 g the percentage of the world's water that is fresh water
 h the number of seconds it takes for sunlight to reach the Earth
 i the chances of dying in a plane crash
 j the percentage of 18–34-year-olds who check Facebook as soon as they wake up



2 Work with your partner to check the statistics.

- **Student A**, say the numbers in 1 aloud.
- **Student B**, look at p156. Say what the numbers refer to and give your partner some extra information.

A One and a half.

B One and a half is the number of hours it takes to hard boil an ostrich egg.

A We were right!

B Or you could make an omelette for 15 people!



3 Match a question with a number. Ask and answer them with your partner.

Questions	Numbers
1 What time does the train to Heathrow leave?	07700 900834
2 How far is it from London to The Bahamas?	21 kilos
3 How long is the flight?	4,342 miles
4 How much is a return ticket?	24°C–29°C
5 What's your credit card number?	£1,171
6 What's the expiry date?	7.5%
7 How much does your suitcase weigh?	9½ hours
8 What's your mobile number?	6356 5055 5137 9904
9 What's the VAT rate in The Bahamas?	13.45
10 What's the average temperature?	07/24

6.8 Listen and check. Practise again.

4 6.9 Listen to Derrick's conversation.

- 1 Where is it taking place?
- 2 Who is he talking to?
- 3 What are the three problems?

5 6.9 Listen again and write down all the numbers you hear. What do they refer to?

860 – flight number

6 Work in groups. Write down some numbers that are important to you. Can the others guess what they refer to? Explain what they are.

Nineteen

Is that how old you are next birthday?

Ha ha! Very funny! No, it's my house number!

TIP

Saying numbers

1 6.6 Listen and repeat the numbers.

150 2,150 680,575

When do we say ...?

- a hundred
- one hundred
- either a or one hundred

2 How do we say 0 in these examples?

07700 900568 0.5 0° centigrade

Italy 2 – Germany 0

6.7 Listen and check, and repeat.

Go online for more speaking practice

