

Grammar reference

- **have**
Lucy **has** a lovely house. (= own / possess)
Susan's **having** a great time at her cousin's house!
(= experience)
Gerty's **having** lunch with her parents today. (= eating)
Note: We can use both *have* and *have got* for possession. The meaning is the same, but *have got* is more informal. We can't use *have got* as an action verb.
- **look**
She **looks like** her mother. (= resemble)
Are you looking for your keys? (= search)
- **taste**
This soup **tastes** horrible! (= have a particular flavour)
Why **are you tasting** the sauce? (= test the flavour)
- **think**
I **think** you're mad! (= have an opinion)
Jenny's **thinking** of going to France. (= consider)
- **see**
'Paul is my mum's brother.' 'Oh, I **see**.' (= understand)
'I'm **seeing** Wendy tomorrow evening.' (= meet)
- **smell**
These flowers **smell** wonderful. (= have a particular smell)
Why **are you smelling** the milk? (= action of smelling)
- **weigh**
Jill **weighs** 48 kg. (= have a particular weight)
I'm **weighing** my suitcase to see how heavy it is.
(= measure the weight)

1.3 Countable and uncountable nouns

Countable nouns

Most nouns are countable and have singular and plural forms.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| sister → sisters | leaf → leaves |
| family → families | child → children |
| toy → toys | woman → women |
| tomato → tomatoes | foot → feet |

We usually use *a* or *an* with singular countable nouns.

a wedding
an opinion

We can use *some*, *any* or a number (e.g. *three*) with plural countable nouns.

There are **some** birds in the park.
Are there **any** biscuits?
We're moving house in **three** weeks.

We use singular or plural verb forms with countable nouns depending on whether we are talking about one or more items.

A family get-together **is** just what we need.
My sisters **live** in Hull.

Note: Some plural countable nouns don't end in *-s*. Remember to use a plural verb form with them.

Children **are** sometimes unkind.
His feet **are** very big!

Uncountable nouns

Some nouns are uncountable. They do not have plural forms.

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|
| advice | history | progress |
| cheese | homework | research |
| chocolate | information | rubbish |
| equipment | knowledge | salt |
| food | luggage | time |
| fruit | milk | traffic |
| fun | money | water |
| furniture | music | weather |

We don't use *a* or *an* with uncountable nouns. We can use *some* and *any*. See also 1.4, below.

I'd like **some** cheese in my sandwich.
Have you got **any** homework tonight?

We always use singular verb forms with uncountable nouns.

This fruit **is** so delicious.
Milk **is** good for you.

Note: Some uncountable nouns end in *-s*. Remember to use a singular verb form with them.

The **news** **isn't** good.
Maths **is** my favourite subject.

We can use phrases describing quantity with uncountable nouns to say how much we have. These are the most common phrases.

| | | |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| a bag of | a cup of | a number of |
| a bottle of | a glass of | a packet of |
| a bowl of | a jar of | a piece of |
| a can of | a kilo of | a tin of |
| a carton of | a loaf of | |

Note: We often say *Would you like a coffee?* (meaning a cup of coffee), but we only do this with coffee, not any other drinks. It is always *a cup of tea*, *a glass of water / juice / milk*, etc.

1.4 Quantifiers

We use *some* with both uncountable and plural countable nouns in affirmative sentences and in requests or offers.

Here are **some** books for your research.
Can you give me **some** advice?
Would you like **some** chocolate?

We use *any* with both uncountable and plural countable nouns in negative sentences and in questions.

Did Julia buy **any** fruit at the market?
Sarah **hasn't** got **any** brothers.

We use *a lot of / lots of* with both uncountable and plural countable nouns.

There's **a lot of / lots of** traffic today.
There are **a lot of / lots of** people in town.

We use *a little* with uncountable nouns and *a few* with plural countable nouns in affirmative sentences.

I like **a little** milk in my tea.
James always eats **a few** biscuits for breakfast.

We use *much* with uncountable nouns and *many* with plural countable nouns in negative sentences and in questions.

There **wasn't** **much** snow last night.
Have **many of your** friends seen that film?

Unit 2

2.1 Past simple

Affirmative

I / He / She / It / We / You / They **cooked**.

Negative

I / He / She / It / We / You / They **didn't** cook.

Questions

Did I / he / she / it / we / you / they cook?

Short answers

Yes, I / he / she / it **did**.

No, I / he / she / it **didn't**.

Yes, we / you / they **did**.

No, we / you / they **didn't**.

Spelling: dance → **danced**
travel → **travelled**

tidy → **tidied**
play → **played**

Note: Some verbs are irregular and do not follow these spelling rules. See a list of irregular verbs on page 183.

We use the past simple for:

- something that started and finished in the past.
*John **made** some coffee a few minutes ago.*
- past routines and habits (often with adverbs of frequency).
*Sue never **ate** fast food at school.*
- actions that happened one after the other in the past, for example when telling a story.
*We **went** to the park and **had** a picnic.*

Note: We often use these common time expressions with the past simple: *yesterday, last night / week / month / summer, a week / month / year ago, twice a week, once a month, at the weekend, in March, in the morning / afternoon / evening, at night, on Thursdays, on Monday mornings, etc.*

2.2 Past continuous

Affirmative

I / He / She / It **was** cooking.
We / You / They **were** cooking.

Negative

I / He / She / It **was not (wasn't)** cooking.
We / You / They **were not (weren't)** cooking.

Questions

Was I / he / she / it cooking?
Were we / you / they cooking?

Short answers

Yes, I / he / she / it **was**.

No, I / he / she / it **wasn't**.

Yes, we / you / they **were**.

No, we / you / they **weren't**.

Spelling: write → **writing**
travel → **travelling**

tidy → **tidying**

We use the past continuous for:

- actions in progress at a specific time in the past.
*Mum **was making** burgers for us at seven o'clock last night.*

Grammar reference

- two or more past actions in progress at the same time.
I was cooking while my brother was watching TV.
- giving background information in a story.
The sun was shining and the children were playing.
- an action in progress in the past that was interrupted by another action.
We were having dinner when the doorbell rang.

Note: We often use these common time expressions with the past continuous: *while, as, all day / week / month / year, at ten o'clock last night, last Sunday / week / year, this morning, etc.*

cook.

?

Unit 2

| Taste | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| bitter | Coffee can be quite bitter. |
| salty | Crisps can be very salty. |
| sour | Lemons are very sour. |
| spicy | Chillis are spicy. |
| sweet | Chocolate is sweet. |

| Cooking verbs | |
|---------------|---|
| bake | I baked a cake in the oven. |
| barbecue | We barbecued the food outside. |
| boil | I boiled some eggs. |
| fry | Frying food isn't healthy. |
| grill | I grilled the fish because I'm on a diet. |
| roast | My mum roasts a chicken every week. |

Tableware, packaging and quantities

| | |
|--------|---|
| bottle | We have three bottles of milk. |
| bowl | I ate a bowl of cereal. |
| box | He gave me a box of chocolates. |
| bunch | I'd like a bunch of bananas. |
| cup | Can I have a cup of tea? |
| fork | Please use a fork for the cake. |
| glass | I'd like a glass of water. |
| jar | He opened a jar of jam. |
| jug | Please get a jug of water. |
| knife | I need a knife to cut the cheese. |
| mug | I have a mug of coffee every morning. |
| packet | We have two packets of cereal. |
| piece | I'd like a piece of cake. |
| plate | Please put the pancakes on a plate. |
| saucer | I need a saucer for my cup of tea. |
| slice | I had a slice of cake for tea. |
| spoon | Use a spoon to eat your soup. |
| tin | I used a tin of tomatoes to make the sauce. |