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PRIMARY 2 · ENGLISH · GRAMMAR

# Grammar

## Theory and worked examples

### Word groups: what you already know

Every word in a sentence belongs to a word group. Grammar is about using each word in the right way.
In Primary 2 we use these names. The school name for each group is in brackets.

- In a grammar test you will: choose the correct word (MCQ), change a word into its correct form, put words in the correct order, and correct spelling and punctuation (editing).
- Clue words help you: a number word (two, many) means more than one. A time word (yesterday, every day, now, tomorrow) tells you the tense. 'than' means you compare two things.

| Word group | What it does | Example |
|---|---|---|
| naming word (noun) | names a person, animal, place or thing | Ravi, cat, school, ball |
| pronoun | takes the place of a naming word | he, she, it, they |
| action word (verb) | shows an action, or says what someone is or has | run, eat, is, has |
| describing word (adjective) | tells more about a naming word | a RED ball, a TALL tree |

| Word group | What it does | Example |
|---|---|---|
| -ly word (adverb) | tells HOW an action is done | ran QUICKLY |
| position word (preposition) | tells WHERE or WHEN | IN the box, ON Monday |
| joining word (conjunction) | joins two ideas | and, but, so, because |




WORKED EXAMPLE

**Which word is a naming word (noun)? The tall boy ran quickly to the gate.**

**(1) tall (2) ran (3) quickly (4) gate**

1. A naming word names a person, animal, place or thing. Ask: which word names something?
2. 'tall' tells more about the boy, so it is a describing word. 'ran' is an action word. 'quickly' tells HOW he ran, so it is a -ly word.
3. 'gate' names a thing, so it is the naming word.

**(4) gate**

TRY THIS T1

**Which word is the describing word (adjective)? Mei Ling has a new bag. (has / new / bag)**

**Answer:** _____

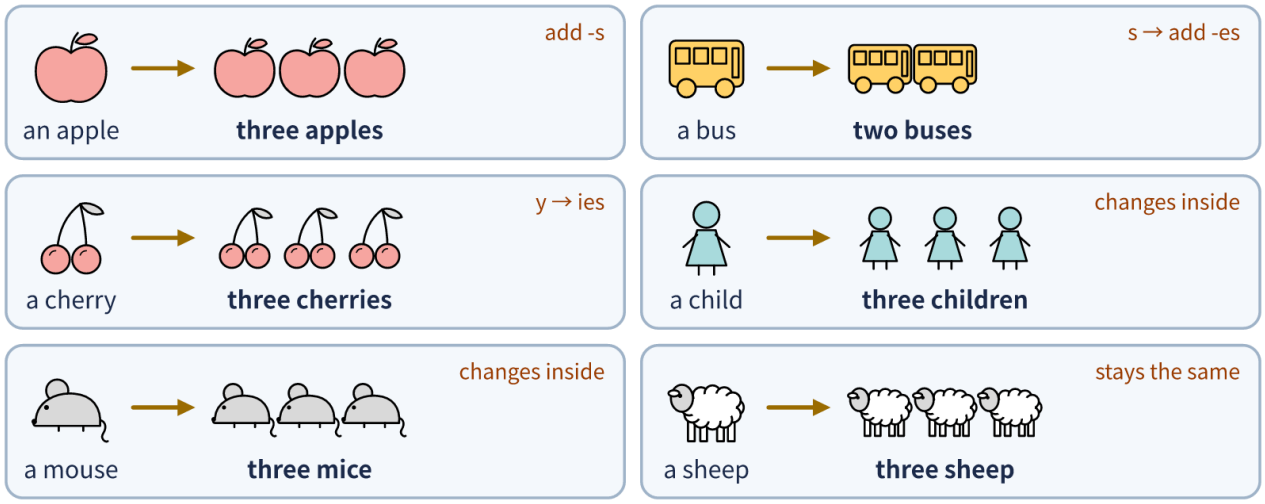
## Naming words: one or more than one

A naming word (noun) for ONE thing is singular. For MORE THAN ONE, it is plural.
Most naming words add -s. Some change in other ways, so learn them well.

KEY IDEA

**Words like two, three, many, a few and these before a naming word tell you to use the plural.**

| Rule | Singular → Plural |
|---|---|
| Most naming words: add -s | book → books, apple → apples |
| Ends in s, x, ch or sh: add -es | bus → buses, box → boxes,<br>watch → watches, dish → dishes |
| Ends in a consonant + y:<br>change y to i, add -es | baby → babies, story → stories,<br>cherry → cherries |
| Ends in a vowel (a, e, i, o, u) + y:<br>just add -s | toy → toys, key → keys, day → days |
| Some change inside | child → children, man → men,<br>woman → women, mouse → mice,<br>foot → feet, tooth → teeth |
| Ends in f or fe:<br>change it to -ves | leaf → leaves, knife → knives,<br>wolf → wolves, shelf → shelves |
| Some words ending in o: add -es | tomato → tomatoes, potato → potatoes,<br>hero → heroes |
| Some stay the same | one sheep → two sheep,<br>one fish → two fish |




WORKED EXAMPLE

**Fill in the correct form: Aisha has two _____ (puppy).**

1. 'two' tells us there is more than one, so we need the plural.
2. 'puppy' ends in a consonant (p) + y. So 'puppys' is wrong.
3. Change y to i and add -es: puppy → puppies.

**puppies**

COMMON MISTAKE

× two babys, three childs, two knifes → ✓ two babies, three children, two knives

TRY THIS T2

**Fill in the correct form: The dentist checked all my _____ (tooth).**

**Answer:** _____

## Things we can count and cannot count

Some things we can count: one egg, two eggs.
Some things we cannot count one by one: water, milk, rice, sugar, salt, sand, bread, juice, money. They have no plural. They take is, was or has, like ONE thing: The rice IS hot. A little salt HAS fallen on the floor.

KEY IDEA

**Ask, "Can I count it?" Yes → many or a few. No → much or a little, and use is, was or has.**

- 'a few' and 'a little' both mean a small amount, but not none. 'a few' is for things we can count: a few sweets. 'a little' is for things we cannot count: a little rice.
- 'no' means none at all. Use it with a PLURAL for things we can count, and with a word that cannot be counted: There are NO eggs left. There is NO milk left. Never 'no egg left'.

| Word | Use it with | Example |
|---|---|---|
| many, a few | things we can count (plural) | MANY books, A FEW sweets |
| much, a little | things we cannot count | MUCH water, A LITTLE sugar |
| some | both kinds, in telling sentences | SOME eggs, SOME milk |
| any | both kinds, in questions and with 'not' | Is there ANY bread? |

**We CAN count them**



one egg, four eggs
**many eggs, a few eggs**

**We CANNOT count them**



milk, rice, water, sugar, salt
**much milk, a little rice**

CHAPTER 1

# Practice Questions

## Part 2: Grammar



### In the practice questions

121 questions, 137 marks. Read each passage and question carefully, then write your answers in the spaces given. The answers are on page 281.

- Practice 1: Warm-up: 2 parts, Q1-24, 24 marks
- Practice 2: On Level: 2 parts, Q25-53, 29 marks
- Practice 3: Exam Challenge: 2 parts, Q54-84, 31 marks
- Practice 4: Editing: 2 parts, Q85-105, 21 marks
- Practice 5: Writing Sentences: 2 parts, Q106-121, 32 marks

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

# Grammar

## Practice 1: Warm-up (Grammar MCQ)

Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets.

**1** Every morning, Mei Ling _____ her dog in the park. ( ) [1]

① walk ② walking ③ walked ④ walks

**2** Look! The monkeys _____ the bananas. ( ) [1]

① eat ② ate ③ are eating ④ is eating

**3** Yesterday, Daniel _____ a letter to his grandmother. ( ) [1]

① will write ② write ③ writes ④ wrote

**4** Tomorrow, we _____ our cousins in Punggol. ( ) [1]

① visited ② will visit ③ visiting ④ will visits

**5** Dad added _____ salt to the soup to make it tastier. ( ) [1]

① a few ② many ③ several ④ a little

**6** Grandpa peeled _____ orange for me after lunch. ( ) [1]

① an ② a ③ many ④ two

**7** _____ boats far out at sea are fishing boats. ( ) [1]

① This ② That ③ These ④ Those

**8** Mum gave Mei Ling and me some biscuits. She gave _____ two each. ( ) [1]

① we ② us ③ ours ④ our

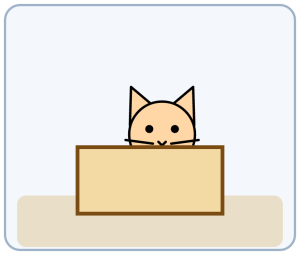
**9** My grandparents _____ very happy with their new flat. ( ) [1]

① are ② is ③ am ④ was

**10** The bus stop is _____ the school and the library. ( ) [1]

① under ② between ③ into ④ across

**11** Look at the picture. The cat is hiding _____ the box. ( ) [1]



① behind ② in front of ③ beside ④ into

**12** My cousin was born _____ 12 March. ( ) [1]

① at ② in ③ on ④ to

**13** The floor was wet, _____ Siti walked carefully. ( ) [1]

① because ② so ③ or ④ but

**14** "_____ feed the monkeys," the zookeeper told the visitors. ( ) [1]

① Does not ② Do not ③ Did not ④ Not

**15** "_____ made this lovely card?" "My sister did." ( ) [1]

① Who ② Where ③ Why ④ When

**16** We cannot bake the cake. There is not _____ flour in the jar. ( ) [1]

① some ② many ③ a few ④ any

## Practice 1: Warm-up (Correct Form)

Fill in each blank with the correct form of the word in brackets. Write one word only.

**17** There are three _____ (bench) at the void deck. [1]

**18** Grandma's cat chased two _____ (mouse) out of the kitchen. [1]

**19** Every evening, Mr Tan _____ (fix) bicycles in his shop. [1]

**20** Listen! The birds are _____ (sing) in the tree. [1]

**21** Yesterday, Aisha _____ (carry) a heavy box for her neighbour. [1]

**22** Last night, Jun Wei _____ (catch) a bad cold. [1]

**23** Ravi's kite flew _____ (high) than Daniel's kite. [1]

**24** Aisha coloured the picture _____ (neat). [1]