



GRAMMAR

Elementary

Hello Everyone! Today we are going to deal with countable nouns. I am using **Oxford 'Test it Fix it'** Grammar for Pre-Intermediate students by Kenna Bourke. The book is available at: <http://www.oup.com/elt/catalogue/isbn/7080?cc=global>

Countable nouns

Spelling rules

- Many English nouns are uncountable. In most cases, you add *s* to the singular noun to make the plural form.

dog/dogs boy/boys shops/shops

- If a countable noun ends in *ch*, *sh*, *s*, *o* or *x*, you add *es* to make the plural form.

watch/watches brush/brushes bus/buses potato/potatoes fox/foxes

- If a countable noun ends in a consonant + *y*, you change *y* to *i* and add *es*.

dictionary/dictionaries story/stories lady/ladies

- If a countable noun ends in *f* or *fe*, you change the *f* to *v* and add *es* or *s*.

thief/thieves leaf/leaves wife/wives knife/knives life/lives

Irregular plural forms

- Some countable nouns are irregular and therefore have irregular plural forms. You need to learn these.

person/people child/children man/men woman/women mouse/mice sheep/sheep

Note:

Some nouns are always plural. You use a plural verb.

These trousers don't fit me.

Are the scissors sharp enough?

The police are coming.

My glasses need cleaning.

Exercise:



Circle the best option, A or B.

Example: Experts predict a rise in the price of _____

A petrol B petrols

Correct answer: A

A Did you hear _____ noise?

A - B a

B Rice _____ good for you.

A is B are

C John has too much _____ to do.

A works B work

D Can I get _____ advice here?

A an B -

E The spaghetti you cooked _____ delicious!

A tastes B taste

F He uses the London tube every day so he spends a lot on _____.

A travel B travels

G We've got _____ good news for you.

A - B a

H Money _____ buy you love.

A don't B doesn't

I Please be quiet! You're making too much _____.

A noises B noise

J Patrick's got _____ blond hair and blue eyes.

A a B -

Intermediate

Hello Everyone! Today we are going to deal with the word 'used to do and be used to doing'. I am using **Oxford Practice Grammar Intermediate by John Eastwood**. The exercises are from Unit 72.

The book is available at: <http://www.oup.com/elt/global/products/practicegrammar/>

Description:

1. **Used + to-infinitive** means that something happened regularly or went on for a time in the past.

I used to travel means that in the past I regularly travelled, but I no longer do so.

Here are some more examples:

We used to play that game when we were younger.

Nick used to smoke, but he gave it up.

I used to like fish, but I never eat it now.

There used to be a dancehall here, but they knocked it down.

We cannot use this structure in the present tense.

Claire travels a lot. NOT ~~Claire uses to travel.~~

We normally use didn't use to in negatives and did....use to in questions.

We didn't use to have computers. Or We never used to have computers.

Where did people use to buy their food before the supermarket was built?

Did you use to live in London?

2. **Be used+ -ing** form means that something is familiar and is no longer strange. I'm used to travelling means that travelling is no longer strange or difficult because I have done it for do long.

Here are some more examples:

We're **used to getting up** early. We do it every day.

Sarah **is used to working** late at the office.

Most visitors to Britain **aren't used to driving** on the left.

I **wasn't used to wearing** glasses. It seemed very strange at first.

We can also say **get used to** to talk about things becoming more familiar. It was difficult at first, but Mike soon **got used to working** at night.



After her husband died, the old woman had to **get used to living** on her own.

Exercise:

Put in a to-infinitive or to+-ing form. Use the verbs in brackets.

When I was a child, I used to dream (dream) of being an astronaut.

I'm terribly nervous. I'm not used to speaking (speak) to a large audience.

- 1 It took us ages to get used _____ (live) in a block of flats.
- 2 Lots of trains used _____ (stop) here, but not many do now.
- 3 Didn't Nick use _____ (work) on a buliding site?
- 4 There didn't use _____ (be) so many soap operas on television.
- 5 I'll have an orange juice , please. I'm not used _____ (drink) alcohol.
- 6 David doesn't seem to mind being in hospital. I suppose he's got used _____ (be) there.
- 7 When Laura was at college, she used _____ (have) a picture of Elvis Presley on her bedroom wall.

Advanced

Hello Everyone! Today we are going to deal with modal verbs again. I am using **Oxford Practice Grammar Advanced by George Yule.**

Exercise:

Complete this dialogue with these forms

- will I'll I'm going to I'd would*
- shall you'll I was going to won't would have*

It's 7.30 a.m. on Thursday morning. Pam and Jim are awake, but still in bed. The phone rings.

Pam: Oh, that _____ be for me. Hello?

Mum: Hello dear. I was hoping it wasn't too early for you. I have to come into town today and I was wondering if you _____ be able to meet me for lunch.

Pam: Oh, _____ love to, Mum, but _____ get my hair done at lunchtime. I _____ been free, but Janet called yesterday and changed my appointment from Friday to today. _____ get it cut on Friday so that it would be nice for Dad's birthday this weekend.

Mum: Ah, the birthday party! That's why I have to come to town. _____ we just have a coffee later? When do you think _____ be finished at the hairdresser's?

Pam: Oh, she _____ have finished before 1.30 or 2. And then I have to get back to the office.

Mum: It's okay. I understand. _____ talk to you later.