English Grammar Today
With CD-ROM
An A–Z of Spoken and Written Grammar

Ronald Carter, Michael McCarthy, Geraldine Mark and Anne O'Keeffe
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Thanks and acknowledgements

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English Grammar Today

Workbook

Ronald Carter, Michael McCarthy, Geraldine Mark and Anne O’Keeffe
Hedges and downtoners
I wondered if, possibly, kind of, a bit

Imperatives
Be quiet!, Let's not go yet.

Infinitives
There's work to do.

Modality
Ability (Can you swim underwater?); Certainty (They must be ready soon.); Obligation and necessity (We need to win this game to get into the final.); Possibility (She might be a friend of Richard's.)

Modal verbs: can, could, may, might, be able to

Modal verbs: must, have to, have got to, need

Modal verbs: should and ought to

Modal verbs: will, shall and would

Modal verbs: would, would like, would rather

Modality: expressions with be
be about to, be likely to and be due to; be certain, be supposed to, be allowed to

Modality: tense
Can and could, will and would, may and might
Should have, could have, might have, must have

Negation
no, don't, neither, never, unlikely

Nouns
Singular and plural (tree – trees, child – children); Compound nouns (car park); Nouns used only in the plural (sunglasses)

Nouns: countable and uncountable nouns
cars, information; Countable and uncountable nouns with different meanings (an iron or iron); Piece words used with uncountable nouns (a bit)

Objects: direct and indirect objects
She gave the dog its dinner.

Passive
The show is watched by five million people every week.

Past: past simple, past continuous and present perfect simple
Past simple (I talked.) and past continuous (I was talking); Past simple or present perfect? (They ate or they've eaten?)
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she, us, his, mine; myself, yourself, each other; none, ones, one or some; everyone, someone, nothing, everything; this, that, these; who, which, how

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Subjects (The teacher told the class to sit down.); Subject-verb agreement (I think, He thinks); Subject complements (That rice tastes quite sweet.)
You’re a musician, aren’t you?

There is and there are

Used to and would

Used to or would (I used to play the flute., We’d often swim in the river.)

Be used to (I’m used to working long hours.)

Verbs

Linking verbs, auxiliary verbs and modal verbs; Compound verbs (daydream)

Verb forms, regular and irregular verbs; Phrasal verbs (take off)

State verbs (I don’t know.) and action verbs (She’s watching TV.)

Verbs: everyday verbs (get, go, wish, want)

Verb patterns

to-infinitive form and the -ing form; Object + to-infinitive or object + base form; Reporting verbs + that-clause (Everyone agrees that we have to act quickly.)

Verbs which are easily confused

come or go; bring, take, fetch, lend or borrow; expect, wait for or hope;
fall, fall down or feel; look, see, watch, hear or listen; used to,
be used to or usually; say or tell; do or make; Verbs that sound similar

Word formation

Prefixes and suffixes; Adjectives and suffixes; Nouns into adjectives; Nouns and prefixes; Verbs and prefixes, verbs and suffixes; Nouns and verbs;
Adverbs and suffixes; Conversions, compounds and abbreviations

Words and expressions which are easily confused

as or like; all, every or the whole; First, firstly, last, the end;
Each and every; Already, still and yet

Answer key