

Conversational English

Beginner
Level 3





Syllabus

1. Survival Travel Phrases
2. Transportation and Giving Advice
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4. Seasons and Future Tense
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Survival Travel Phrases

Important Phrases:

- I need help!
- Can someone please help me?
- I've lost my ... wallet, passport, identification card.
- I am lost!
- How do I get to ... ?



- Where is the nearest...bank, telephone, police station, hotel, taxi/bus station?
- Can you take me to the nearest...?
- I'm sick! I need to see a doctor!

Expressing “must be done” or strong desire:

NEED + INFINITIVE or HAVE + INFINITIVE

Examples:

1. I *need to buy* some medicine. Where is the nearest pharmacy?
2. I *have to get* a new passport. I lost mine in a taxi.
3. I *need to get* something to eat. Is there a restaurant nearby?



Dialogue:

John: Excuse me, sir. Can you please help me?

Airport security: How can I help you?

John: I've lost my wallet! It has my driver's license, credit cards, my money inside! I need to find it!

Airport security: I'm sorry, sir. When did your wallet go missing?

John: I had it about ten minutes ago when I went to buy a cup of coffee; now I can't find it.

Airport security: Where did you buy the coffee?

John: At that restaurant over there.

Airport security: I'll go and talk to the restaurant owner.

-- a few minutes later --

Airport security: Is this your wallet, sir?

John: YES! Where did you find it?

Airport security: The restaurant owner found it near the sugar and milk.

You must have put it down while preparing your coffee.

John: Oh, thank you! You've just made my day!

Signs you may see:

Stop
Yield
Warning!

Danger!
No Smoking
No Parking

No trespassing
Employees only



Transportation

Vocabulary:

Street (St.)
Road (Rd.)
Avenue (Ave.)
Bus
Car
Truck

Train
Taxi
Boat/Ship

Bicycle
Motorcycle
Van
SUV
Airplane/plane
Scooter



Giving Advice: *The word should is used to ask for or give advice.*

Positive form: SHOULD + VERB
Negative form: SHOULD + NOT + VERB
(SHOULDN'T)

Examples:

- I want to go to the city. How should I get there?
 - o You should take a car.
- Should I go to Anjouan by boat or plane?
 - o You shouldn't go by boat because it takes more time.
- What is the best way to see this town?
 - o You should rent a bicycle and ride around.
- Where should I turn to get to the library?
 - o You should turn on President's Avenue.

Practice: Use the word should to give advice.

1. What should he do if his car breaks down? _____

2. What's the best way to travel to America? _____

3. If it is raining, should we take a taxi to Moroni or go by foot? _____

4. To get to your house should she turn at First St. or Tenth Ave.? _____

5. Should I buy a van or a motorcycle for my family? _____

Exercise: Practice asking and giving more advice to your classmates about traveling to other towns or countries.





The Weather



Vocabulary:

Rain(ing)

Snow(ing)

Drizzle(ing)

Freezing

Windy

Humid vs. Dry

Cold vs. Hot

Warm vs. Cool

Foggy vs. Clear

Cloudy vs. Sunny

Question: How's the weather? What's it like outside?

Possible Answers:

It's raining.

It's cloudy.

It's so hot.

It's windy.

It's pouring.



It's too foggy; I can't see anything.

It's cloudy and humid.

It's not cold, it's freezing!

It's not really raining its just drizzling.

It's warm outside but cool inside.

Exercise:

What is the weather like if...

1. I can't keep my cap on? _____
2. I need to wear a jacket? _____
3. I need to bring an umbrella? _____
4. I need to wear my sunglasses? _____
5. I can't see? _____
6. It is fall/autumn? _____

Adverbs of Frequency:

Review:

Always

Usually

Sometimes

Rarely

Never

Advanced:

Almost always

Often

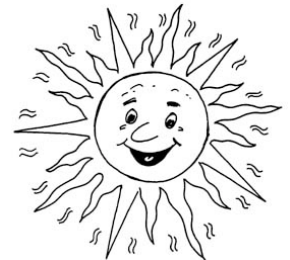
Occasionally

Seldom

Almost never

Examples:

1. It *rarely* snows in the summer.
2. It is *always* cold in the winter
3. In my area it *almost always* drizzles in the afternoon.
4. In America it *usually* rains in the month of April.



Activity: Use the adverbs of frequency to describe the weather in your area.

Seasons and Future Tense

Vocabulary:

Some places have four seasons:

- Spring – warm and rainy
- Summer – hot and sunny
- Fall – cool and windy
- Winter – cold and snowy



Some places have two seasons:

- Rainy Season – a lot of rain
- Dry Season – little or no rain

Future Tense Construction I: What will you do?

Person	will	not	+ Verb (infinitive)	Time Frame (not required)
I			won't	
You	This afternoon			
He/She/It	Next week			
We	Next month			
You all	Next year			
They	Etc.			

Future Tense Construction II: What are you going to do?

Person	Form of "to be"	(not) going	to + verb (infinitive)	Time Frame (not required)
I	am			
You	are	This afternoon		
He/She/It	is	Next week		
We	are	Next month		
You all	are	Next year		
They	are	Etc.		

Practice: Use verbs from the list above to help you complete the sentences below in the future tense (you may use the negative or positive forms).

1. In the winter I _____ a bathing suit.
2. He _____ a lot during the rainy season.
3. We _____ anymore, because now we agree.
4. She _____ the glass if she is not careful.
5. I _____ if I fall and scrape my knee.
6. You all _____ your house until the dry season.
7. She _____ a lot of money on her wedding.

Discussion: What will the weather be like during the different seasons in your country? What will you do in each season? What kind of clothes will you wear during the different seasons if you travel to France? Why?

At the Restaurant



Vocabulary:

Waiter/Waitress	Appetizer	Napkin	Pass
Reservation	Spoon	Glass/Cup	Bring
Menu	Fork	Plate	Order
Entree	Knife/Knives	Bill	Pay

Phrases used in Restaurants:

Polite Requests

1. Would you please pass the bread?
2. Can you get me a glass of water, please?
3. Would you please bring me a menu?
4. May I please have a hamburger?
5. I would like some ketchup *on the side*.
6. Please pass the potatoes.

Polite Service

1. May I take your order?
2. Would you like French fries or salad with your order?
3. Would you like anything else with that?
4. Can I get you anything else?
5. Have a nice day. Please come again.

Dialogue:

Waiter: Hello, welcome to Chez Gourmet. How many in your party?
Andrew: There are three of us.
Waiter: Right this way, please.
Janet: Thank you.
Waiter: Can I get you something to drink?
Janet: May I have a glass of water?
Ben: I would like a Coke.
Andrew: Could I have a cup of tea?

Waiter: Sure, I'll be back in a minute.
Waiter: Here are your drinks. Are you ready to order?
Ben: Yes, we would like to share a large cheese pizza.
Waiter: Can I get you anything else with that?
Andrew: No, thank you.



Challenge: Practice changing the following sentences into polite forms.

1. Give me your pen. _____
2. Come to my house tomorrow. _____
3. Here is some cake. _____
4. I want spaghetti for dinner. _____
5. Make me a cup of tea. _____

Describing Objects

To describe something we use our senses. We have five senses.

1. Sight: With our *eyes* we can *see* an object's size, shape, color, length and sometimes age.



old or new	large or small	rectangular
long or short	huge or tiny	round
thick or thin	shiny or dull	square

2. Hearing: With our *ears* we can *hear* if a sound or object is:

loud or quiet	high or low
far or near	in front or behind



3. Touch: With our *hands* we can *feel* if an object is:

rough or smooth	wet or dry
hot or cold	heavy or light
soft or hard	



4. Taste: With our *tongues* we can *taste* if food is:

Spicy or bland	Sour
Salty	Bitter
Sweet	



5. Smell: We use our *noses* to *smell* if something is:

Nasty	Great
Terrible	Wonderful



Or we can use phrases like: "It smells like..." or "I smell ..."

Practice: Pair these objects with one or two adjectives that describe them.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ball _____ | 6. A rock _____ |
| 2. Water _____ | 7. A baby _____ |
| 3. MP3 player _____ | 8. A book _____ |
| 4. A soda bottle _____ | 9. Karthala _____ |
| 5. Music at a party _____ | 10. Cassava leaves _____ |

Activity: Write several sentences describing something in your house. See if your classmates can guess what it is from your description.

Comparing Families

Vocabulary:

Stepbrother	Sister-in-law	Great Grandfather
Stepsister	Brother-in-law	Great Grandmother
Stepmother	Mother-in-law	Grandson
Stepfather	Father-in-law	Granddaughter
Half-brother	Great Aunt	Only Child
Half-sister	Great Uncle	

Examples:

1. The father of my grandfather is my _____.
2. My grandmother’s sister is my _____.
3. The mother of my husband is my _____.
4. My father’s wife is my _____.
5. My father and his second wife have 2 sons. They are my _____.

Comparatives and Superlatives:

Remember:

1. Add -er to one-syllable adjectives. Add -est for the superlative.
2. Use ‘more’ before adjectives with 3 or more syllables, and ‘most’ for the superlative.
3. Irregular ones (like those in the table) must be memorized!

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Good	Better	Best
A little	Less	Least
Bad	Worse	Worst
Many	More	Most
Much	More	Most
A lot	More	Most
Far	Farther	Furthest

Examples:

My sister is *older than* me, but my brother is younger.
 Ali’s stepmother is *more generous than* his father.
 Hadidja’s grandson is *the most intelligent* student in class.

Practice:

Follow the examples above to write 5 sentences comparing people in your family. Then share your sentences with a partner.



Character Traits

Vocabulary: Place a “√” next to the positive character traits and an “X” next to negative ones.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ambitious | <input type="checkbox"/> Violent | <input type="checkbox"/> Honest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lazy | <input type="checkbox"/> Wise | <input type="checkbox"/> Humble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient | <input type="checkbox"/> Loving | <input type="checkbox"/> Proud |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gentle | <input type="checkbox"/> Joyful | <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faithful | <input type="checkbox"/> Depressed | <input type="checkbox"/> Courageous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Generous | <input type="checkbox"/> Kind | <input type="checkbox"/> Friendly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shy | <input type="checkbox"/> Easy-going | <input type="checkbox"/> Mean |



Example Sentences:

- Omar is *lazy*. He never helps with the work. He just watches TV.
- Bill Gates and Barack Obama are both very *ambitious* people.
- If you want good advice, you need to find a *wise* person.
- Soldiers have to be very *courageous* and *disciplined*.

Exercise: Discuss the following questions.

Which character traits help to make a good husband or wife?

Which character traits do you see in your best friend?

How can you describe the character of Comorian people in general?

A Description of Rebekah by Chris:

My wife, Rebekah, is my best friend in the whole world. We’ve been married now for 12 years.

Let me tell you about her: She is short and has long, wavy hair and a big smile. To me, she is very beautiful. She always seems to be joyful, she’s very friendly and everyone likes her. She’s kind to all people, no matter what age, race or gender.

Some other characteristics that I really like about Rebekah are that she’s hard-working and not at all lazy. She’s a very good mother. She’s gentle and kind with the children. She’s also very athletic. She loves sports and plays basketball, tennis, and volleyball very well.

Lastly, one of the greatest things about my wife is that although she is very talented, she is humble and doesn’t look down on others. She loves God and honors Him with her life. I’m very lucky to have her as my wife.

Activity: Tell the class about the character of your dad, mom, spouse or friend.

Adverbs

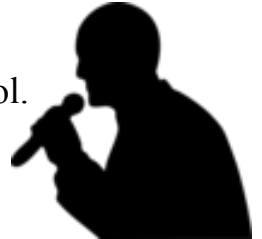
Definition: An adverb describes a verb. Most adverbs end in “-ly”. They may be placed before or after the verb.

They answer the questions:

- How was the action done?
- How often is an action done?
- Where is an action done?

They can also show degree.

He sang *loudly*.
She *rarely* goes to school.
Bill eats *anywhere*.
Miriam was *very* tired.



Vocabulary: Review the meaning of the following verbs and adverbs. Match each verb to an appropriate adverb. More than one answer may be correct.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Walk: _____ | A. Quickly |
| 2. Run: _____ | B. Carefully |
| 3. Talk: _____ | C. Hard |
| 4. Sleep: _____ | D. Continuously |
| 5. Sit: _____ | E. Fair |
| 6. Play: _____ | F. Deeply |
| 7. Argue: _____ | G. Loudly |
| 8. Work: _____ | H. Quietly |
| 9. Pray: _____ | I. Peacefully |
| 10. Drive: _____ | J. Slowly |

Practice: Write sentences using the following combination of adverbs and verbs. Does the sentence tell the degree of an action, the way the action was done, or when or where the action took place?

1. Look, Carefully

2. Run, Rarely

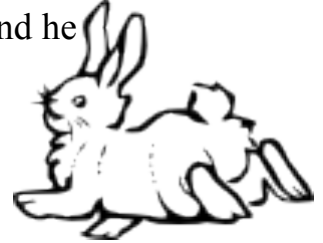
3. Feel sick, Very

4. Study, Hard.

The Hare and the Tortoise

Once upon a time, there was a proud hare and a wise tortoise that lived together in the forest. The hare ran everywhere quickly and he loved to tease the tortoise as he moved slowly along.

"You are so slow!", the hare laughed loudly. "I get tired just watching you!" The other animals in the forest listened carefully as the wise tortoise replied, "You are very fast, Mr. Hare, but even you can be beaten."



The hare laughed proudly. "Beaten in a race? By whom? Not you, that's for sure! I think there's nobody in the world that can win against me; I'm so fast. Let's have a race, Mr. Tortoise." Surprisingly, the tortoise accepted and a race was quickly organized for the next day.

The next morning many animals excitedly came to see the race. Mr. Fox started the race shouting loudly, "On your mark. Get set. Go!" The hare laughed softly and then suddenly sped away out of sight. The tortoise walked slowly down the path saying over and over, "Slowly, slowly wins the race!" The hare ran quickly for a while but eventually became hot and tired and stopped for a drink of water and a short rest in the shade of an extremely large tree.

After two hours, the hare suddenly woke up and looked around, looking for the tortoise. Tortoise was far down the trail, nearing the finish line. The hare jumped up immediately and ran hard toward the finish line. He got closer and closer to the tortoise, but the tortoise crossed the finish line victoriously a few seconds before the hare and all the animals cheered loudly.



Poor hare! Tired and totally ashamed, he sat down silently beside the tortoise that was smiling wisely at him. "Slowly, slowly wins the race!" said Tortoise.

Questions:

1. Can you find the adverbs in the story? (Remember that adverbs are often formed by adding "-ly" to an adjective.)
2. What is the story trying to teach?
3. Which proverbs in Shingazidja correspond with the saying of the tortoise?

Activity: Can you retell the story of the tortoise and the hare in your own words?

Occupations

Vocabulary:

accountant secretary dentist hairdresser government official
 carpenter security guard housekeeper mechanic

Action verbs: Are verbs that describe what a person does in their job. *E.g. A taxi driver **drives** a car. A fisherman **fishes** in the ocean. A salesperson **sells** products.*

Question: What does a _____ do?

teacher doctor soldier farmer
 waiter nurse singer pilot



Practice: Answer each question with one of the jobs from above.

1. Who makes furniture from wood?
2. Who repairs cars?
3. Who cleans houses?
4. Who protects a building or home?
5. Who cares for people's teeth?
6. Who assists the boss and answers phones?
7. Who cuts and arranges women's hair?
8. Who counts money and tracks spending in a business?
9. Who makes new laws?

Classified Ad

Wanted:

A high school or university student available from 3:00-6:00 daily, Mon.-Fri. to care for 3 young, school-age children. Duties include: picking them up from bus stop, bringing them home, giving a snack, helping with homework, and general supervision. Desired qualifications: a love for children, energetic personality, creativity, and prior experience.

More practice:

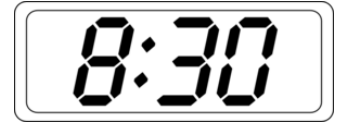
Write your own classified ad for your job.

Prepositions of Time

Review:

Ways to ask the time:

1. Do you have the time?
2. Excuse me, do you know what time it is?
3. What time is it?
4. Can you tell me the time?
5. Can you tell me what time it is?



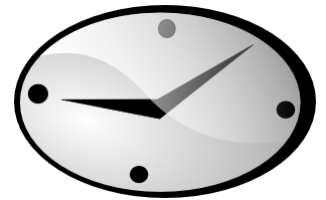
What is the time?

- a) 6:30pm b) 2:05pm c) 8:15am d) 12:00am e) 3:45am d) 4:59pm

Prepositions of Time:

IN

I will see you in 15 minutes.
He will be here in a few weeks.
In two days, it will be my birthday.



FOR

They will be on vacation for a month.
We will meet for two hours.
I am going to Dubai for two years.

ABOUT

The meeting will be about forty minutes long.
He came to Comoros about three years ago.
I have been here for about a half hour.
I will leave in about three days.

AT

The class starts at 5:00 sharp.
The plane will arrive at 8:15 in the morning.
We eat lunch at noon.




ON


Please be on time!
My birthday is on December 9th.
We leave for vacation on July 19th.

TO

We will be at school from 8:00 to 12:00.
My mother will be in France from June to August.
David lived in Madagascar from 2008 to 2011.

Practice With Prepositions

Above At Beneath Beside Next to Below From Far Under	FIXED 
--	---

Through To Toward Up From Past Along	MOVING 
--	--

Confusing Prepositions:

Up vs. Above

If you go up the street you will see the library.

If you go up the mountain you will see Mkazi.

Mkazi is above Mde.

Down vs. Below

I walk down the mountain.

The house is below the trees.

At vs. To

I'm going to a party.

The party is at Suleiman's house.

Sense or Nonsense: Decide if the following sentences make sense or not.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Ali walked through my wall. | 8. Ahmed is toward the shop. |
| 2. Ali walked through the class. | 9. Ahmed is next to the shop. |
| 3. Ali walked through the door. | 10. Riziki is walking beneath the tree. |
| 4. Zahariya is above my house. | 11. Riziki is walking beneath the house. |
| 5. Zahariya is at my house. | |
| 6. Ibrahim is below the tree. | |
| 7. Ibrahim is under the house. | |

Exercise:

Write three sentences with a fixed preposition and three with moving ones. Read them to a partner and ask them if they make sense or is not.

Pronunciation: Vowels

When learning a language it is important to work on pronunciation. Look at the following vowels. What sounds can they make?

A E I O U

There are many sounds in the English language but lets just focus on two sounds that each vowel makes. (Don't worry about the meaning of the words).

- I. **Long sounds** – The vowel say their names.
(*Shingazidja pronunciation in italics*)

A – (*ei*) – Hay, Say, Hate, Take, Mail, Pail
E – (*i*) – He, See, Team, Seem, Meal, Peel
I – (*ai*) – Hi, Bye, Time, Pile, File
O – (*ow*) – Hoe, Bow, Hole, Pole
U – (*yu*) – You, Use, Few, Fuel, Mule



- II. **Short sounds** - Some sounds are foreign, some are familiar

Foreign sounds:

I – hit, sit, trip, lip, pill
A – hat, sat, trap, lap, pal, cap
U – hut, some, truck, come, cup

Familiar sounds:

O - Hot, Lot, Mom, rock, lock
E - Let, met, fell, tell, pen

Practice: Look at these pairs of words that sound alike. Use them in sentences.

Hot, Hat, Hit, Hut, Heat:

*The hot man hit
the hut in the heat.*



File, Fell, Fill, Fuel:

*The file fell when
the man filled the fuel.*

Moods, Feelings, and the Future Conditional

Moods and Feelings:

happy vs. sad/upset

in a good mood vs. in a bad mood

excited

surprised

worried/anxious

angry/mad

bored

nervous vs. calm

jealous

confused

tired/exhausted

embarrassed



Discussion:

How do you feel today? Why?

Is there a time when you were really embarrassed? What happened?

Have you ever been surprised? When?

What kinds of things make you worried?

Future Conditional phrases - If...(then) phrases.

Can be constructed like this: If he is sick, then he won't go to school.

-Or-

Can be constructed like this: If he is sick, he won't go to school.

Examples:

If Said goes to English school everyday, he'll learn to speak English well.

If my mother cooks, I'll stay home for supper.

If I don't go to the party, then my friend will be upset.

If we don't pass the Bach, we will not go to the university.

If my brother goes to France, then I will be excited.

Discussion:

How will you feel if...

... Comoros goes to the next World Cup?

... your cousin goes to the United States?

... there is another gas crisis?

... your friends throw you a surprise birthday party?

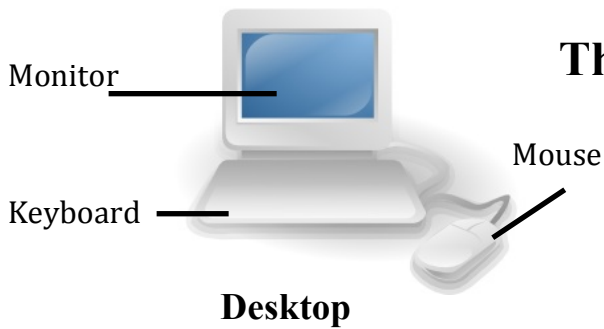
... you get in a car accident?

... the English class is three hours long next week?

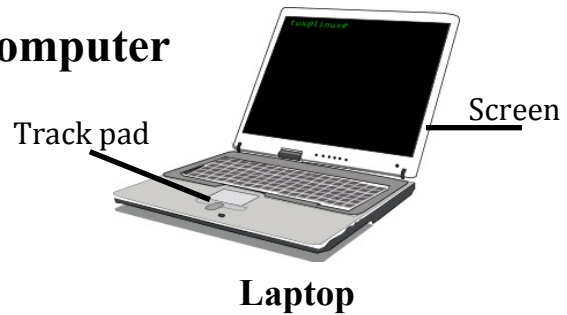
... Ali gets the best grade on the exam?

... crime increases in Comoros?





The Computer



Vocabulary:

NOUNS:

Email
Battery

Internet
WIFI

Online
Internet/cyber

VERBS:

Search
Email

Surf
Type

Research
Chat

Skype
Burn

Using “to” to describe purpose – USE + TO + Verb.

Why does she use Google? She uses it to shop (for new things).

Why do you use Facebook? I use it to communicate (with my friends).

Why do you use Wikipedia? We use it to do research (for our classes).

Why do they use Skype? They use it to talk (to their family and friends).

Tell the class: Why do you use the Internet?

Important Computer Related Questions:

Q: Can you tell me your email address? Are you online?

A: Sure, it's Sergio@gsvcomoros.org (Sergio at G-S-V Comoros dot org.)

Q: Do you use the cyber cafe at Caltex?

A: No, the Internet is slow there. It's fast at Bonzami and they have WIFI so I can use my laptop.

Q: I don't know what the capital of Mexico is. Do you?

A: No, you should “Google” it.

Q: Do you know who invented the radio?

A: No, I'll check on Wikipedia.

Q: I really love Maalesh. Would you burn me a CD?

A: I don't have any CDs, but I can put it on a thumb drive if you'd like.

At School – Educational Terminology



Vocabulary: School Subjects

Science

English

Art

Geography

French

Music

Math

Arabic

Physical Education (P.E.)

Social Studies

History

Questions with “How?”:

- How long have you studied English?
 - I have studied it for 2 years
 - I have studied it since I was 12 years old.
- How many students are in your Science class?
 - There are 35 students in my Science class.
- How far do you have to run for your P.E. test?
 - I have to run 5 km.
- How interesting is your Art class?
 - It is a very interesting class.
 - It is not especially interesting.
- How hard is the Social Studies class in the last year of school?
 - It is extremely hard.
 - It’s not hard at all. I think that it is very easy.

More Adverbs:

Adverbs also can describe an adjective.

Can you find adverbs in these sentences?

Questions with “Which?”:

- Which is your favorite subject?
 - French is my favorite subject.
- Which one(s) is (are) the hardest?
 - Science is the hardest one.
 - Math and Science are the hardest ones.
- Which subject do you like the least?
 - I really don’t like Art.
 - French is my least favorite one.
- Which subject do you think is the easiest?
 - Geography is the easiest one.

Demonstratives:

One and ones

1. “One” can replace an object in a sentence.

2. “Ones” can replace several objects in a sentence.

Activity: What do your friends think of school?

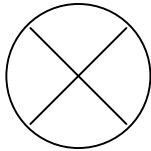
Use the “how” and “which” questions above and see what they have to say.



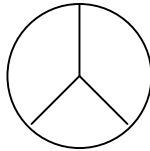
Basic Math

Vocabulary:

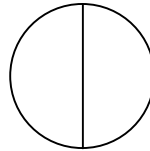
A Quarter



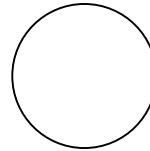
A Third



A Half



A Whole



Add → $1 + 1 = 2$. “One plus one equals two.”

Subtract → $5 - 2 = 3$. “Five minus two equals three.”

Multiply → $2 \times 3 = 6$. “Two times three equals six.”

Divide → $20 \div 2 = 10$. “Twenty divided by two equals ten.”

Partner practice: Answer the following problems. Then read them out loud.

1. $3 + 8 =$ _____
2. $10 - 5 =$ _____

3. $4 \times 3 =$ _____
4. $9 \div 3 =$ _____

Listening Activity:

Listen to your teacher read math problems.

Write them down and answer them.

Useful phrases containing math:

Can you add a few tomatoes to the pile?

Give me a half-kilo of sugar and a half-kilo of flour.

The car went three times as fast after it was repaired.

Our class divided into four groups for the activity.

Four people from Moroni plus six from Mitsamouli went to the game.

His boss gave him an advance of 10,000 CMF. Later he subtracted it from his salary.

Jonny ate the whole pizza. I didn't get to have a piece.

Estimate: Using the word “ABOUT” and “AROUND”: The words “about” and “around” indicate a number that is not exact.

Examples:

- There are about fifteen students in the class.
- I will be home at around 7:00.
- I will be home in about 15 minutes.
- I began to walk when I was about one and a half.
- A pineapple costs about 1,000 CMF.
- A soda costs around 200 francs, but you will pay about two times as much at a hotel.

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. How often do you exercise?
2. How much do tomatoes cost?
3. How much does it cost to go to France?
4. How many people are there in Vouvouni?
5. How much bigger is New York City than Moroni?
6. How many years have you been studying English?

Simple Present Perfect Tense

The “present perfect” tense is formed in this way:

Positive Form

SUBJECT + HAVE/HAS + PAST PARTICIPLE

Negative Form

SUBJECT + HAVE/HAS + NEVER + PAST PARTICIPLE

-OR-

SUBJECT + HAVE/HAS + NOT + PAST PARTICIPLE

Verb	Simple Past	Past Participle
be	was / were	been
do	did	done
eat	ate	eaten
ride	rode	ridden
see	saw	seen
take	took	taken

Examples:

1. Have you ever been to Madagascar?

*Yes, I’ve been to Madagascar twice.

*No, I’ve never been there.

2. Have you ever eaten an apple?

*Yes, I have eaten an apple and was delicious.

*No, I’ve never eaten one. Are they good?

3. Has anyone in your family ever ridden a horse?

*Yes, my father has ridden one.

*No, no one in my family has ever ridden a horse.

Questions for practice:

1. What is the most interesting thing that you have ever done?
2. Have you ever climbed Mount Karthala? Was it a good experience?
3. Have you ever been very sick or badly injured? What happened?
4. Has anyone ever given you anything strange to eat? What was it?
5. Have you ever done anything dangerous? Did you get hurt?
6. Have you ever been to Dubai? What was it like?
7. Has anything ever been taken from you? How did you feel?



Story Using Perfects

Vocabulary:

Emperor
vain

scoundrel
tailor

outfit
loom

The Emperor's New Clothes

Many years ago there was an Emperor who was very vain. He loved thinking about what clothes to wear. One day two scoundrels came to town, saying they were tailors.

They told the emperor, "For a long time we have wanted to sew you a new outfit made from a special cloth. We will make it ourselves. This cloth is the most beautiful of all cloths, but it has never been seen by stupid or unqualified people."

The emperor said, "I will give you more money than I have ever spent on clothes if you make this cloth for me."

While they were working he thought, "I've sent two of my best ministers to check on their progress. Now I will see if they are smart or stupid."

The ministers stared at the loom where the scoundrels were working, but could not see anything. They were too embarrassed to admit it, so they told the emperor, "We've never seen anything like it!"

The scoundrels told the emperor, "We have finished the cloth." The emperor didn't see anything as they brought him the invisible clothing, but he stayed quiet. They dressed him in his new clothes and he went out to walk in front of the people. No one saw the clothes, but everyone said, "The emperor has never looked better!"

Then a small boy cried out, "The emperor's not wearing any clothes!" All the people began to say the same thing. The emperor continued on his walk, thinking, "I have been deceived." But he was too proud to show that he knew they were right.

Grammar practice:

1. Underline all the perfects in the story. How many do you see?
2. What is the meaning of I've?
3. *Have you ever* spent a lot of money on clothes?
4. *Have you ever* been embarrassed like the emperor?
When? What did you do?

Questions for comprehension:

1. What was the emperor's problem?
2. What did the scoundrels want to do?
3. Was the cloth real?
4. What happened when the emperor wore his new clothes?
5. What is the moral (teaching point) of the story?

Practice:

Reread the story and then tell it to a friend.

