



**EXPERIMENTAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA**

GRAMMAR REQUIREMENTS FOR LEVEL A1

This publication has made use of the [English Grammar Profile](#). This resource is based on extensive research using the Cambridge Learner Corpus and is part of the English Profile programme, which aims to provide evidence about language use that helps to produce better language teaching materials.

See <http://www.englishprofile.org/> for more information.

ADJECTIVES

COMBINING

FORM: COMBINING TWO ADJECTIVES WITH 'AND'

Can use 'and' to join a limited range of common adjectives.

Corrected Learner Examples

The teachers are very nice and friendly.

I like my house because it is big and comfortable.

You can buy Turkish and English products as well.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

The teachers are very nice and friendly.

I like my house because it is very big and comfortable.

You can buy Turkish and English products as well.

MODIFYING

FORM: WITH 'VERY'

Can use 'very' with a limited range of common gradable adjectives.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like Croydon because it's very quiet and very nice.

My neighbours are very friendly.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I like Croydon because it's very quiet and very nice.

My neighbours are very friendly and we have go sometimes a small party there.

Comments

there are examples using 'really' and 'so' but frequency is low, particularly in comparison with NS use |Also there are examples of attributive use (after the noun) but very low frequency and with many errors. .

POSITION

FORM: ATTRIBUTIVE (WITH NOUNS)

Can use a limited range of adjectives attributively, before a noun. ► noun phrases

Corrected Learner Examples

We have a big garden and a small swimming pool.

My name is Bogdan. I am your new neighbour.

I like my home because I have a nice park next to my house.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

We have a big garden and a small swimming pool.

My name is Bogdan. I am your new neighbour.

I like my home because I have a nice park next to my house.

FORM: PREDICATIVE, WITH 'BE'

Can use a limited range of adjectives predicatively, after 'be'.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like my home because my bedroom is big.

This place is lovely.

My kitchen is nice.

This place is beautiful.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I like my home because my bed room is big and I have double bed and I have lot of pictures on the wall In this house is near the town center.

This place is lovely.

My kitchen is nice and it has got now cooker.

This place is beautiful and have a arcade and some food hir.

SUPERLATIVES

FORM: 'MY BEST FRIEND'

Can use the irregular superlative adjective 'best' in the phrase 'my best friend'.

Corrected Learner Examples

She's my best friend.

Shahin is my best friend.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

She's my best friend.

Shahin is my best friend.

ADVERBS

ADVERB PHRASES – FORM

FORM: 'VERY' + ADVERB

Can modify adverbs of time and degree with 'very'.

Corrected Learner Examples

I hope you will be fine very soon.

I like my job very much.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I hope you will be fine very soon.

I like my job very much.

ADVERBS AND ADVERB PHRASES: TYPES AND MEANINGS

FORM: 'VERY' + ADJECTIVES

Can use 'very' to modify common gradable adjectives.

Corrected Learner Examples

My home is very nice.

My teacher is very good.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

My home is very nice.

My teacher is very good.

FORM: 'VERY' + TIME ADVERBS

Can use 'very' to modify time adverbs. ► adverb phrases

Corrected Learner Examples

I hope you get well very soon.

I don't like it at college when I have a lesson very early.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I hope you are well very soon.

I don't like at college when I have lesson very early.

FORM: DEGREE AND TIME, MODIFYING VERBS

Can use degree and time adverbs to modify verbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

I really like Japanese music.

I like my college very much.

I always go to the park with my children. We sometimes go to the shopping centre.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I really like Japanese music.

But I like my college very much.

I always go to the park. with my children. we sometimes go to shopp's centre.

FORM: PLACE, COMPLEMENT

Can use place adverbs ('here', 'there') as complements of verbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

I am happy here because people are very nice.

I hope you will be there.

You must go there.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I am happy here because people are very nice.

I hope you will be there.

I was born there and I lived there over twenty years.

You must go there.

ADVERBS AS MODIFIERS

USE: 'VERY' WITH ADJECTIVES

Can use 'very' to make adjectives stronger.

Corrected Learner Examples

He's a very good man.

I'm very happy in my home.

USE: DEGREE WITH VERBS

Can use 'really' and 'very much' with verbs expressing preference ('like', 'love'), for emphasis.

Corrected Learner Examples

I really like theatre and a classical music.

I really love my space!

I like my garden very much.

USE: FREQUENCY

Can use a limited range of adverbs ('always', 'sometimes') to talk about frequency.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like Dorchester's people, they are always very friendly and polite.

I always see Safora because she lives near my home.

Sometimes I go to the beach.

USE: PLACE

Can use a limited range of adverbs ('here', 'there') to indicate place.

Corrected Learner Examples

My girlfriend is here with me.

I was born there and I lived there over twenty years.

I go there every year with my friends.

USE: TIME

Can use 'soon' in the phrases 'See you soon' and 'Get well soon', as a signing-off device.

Corrected Learner Examples

Take care. See you soon.

Get well soon.

POSITION

FORM: 'REALLY,' MID POSITION

Can use 'really' in the usual mid-position, between the subject and the main verb.

Corrected Learner Examples

I really love walking.

I really like my kitchen, because it is big.

FORM: DEGREE, BEFORE ADJECTIVES

Can use a limited range of degree adverbs before an adjective.

Corrected Learner Examples

*My home is very light and very comfortable.
I have a really good friend, her name is Dylma.*

FORM: FREQUENCY, MID POSITION

Can use frequency adverbs in the usual mid position, between the subject and the main verb.

Corrected Learner Examples

*In my free time I always listen to music, watch TV, clean my room ...
She sometimes goes to the cinema and to the disco.*

FORM: FRONT POSITION

Can use a limited range of adverbs in front position.

Corrected Learner Examples

*Sometimes I go to the beach.
I like writing and speaking but sometimes I like listening.
You can bring some music . Maybe we can dance.*

FORM: PLACE, END POSITION

Can use place adverbs in the usual end position.

Corrected Learner Examples

*I have many friends there.
I like this place because my parents live there.*

FORM: TIME, END POSITION

Can use time adverbs in the usual end position.

Corrected Learner Examples

*Get well soon.
I hope to see you soon.
... because I not working also I will wake up late.*

CLAUSES

COORDINATED

FORM: CLAUSE + CLAUSE, ELLIPTED SUBJECT

Can omit the subject in a second main declarative clause when the subject is obvious or the same as the first clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

*She likes to listen to music and watch TV.
After break we go to the class and play some games or study.
Sometimes I go to the park with my friend and play tennis and football.
I can clean or cook for you.*

FORM: MAIN CLAUSE + MAIN CLAUSE

Can combine two main declarative clauses using co-ordinating conjunctions ('and', 'but', 'or').

Corrected Learner Examples

I like my college and I like my class.

On Sunday I visit my friends, but I often stay at home and I read books.

I like English lessons but I don't like physics.

I watch television, I read magazines or I sleep.

DECLARATIVE

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE DECLARATIVE

Can form simple affirmative declarative clauses.

Corrected Learner Examples

I study English at college.

My friend is a nurse.

I'm living in Manchester.

It's very cheap and you can buy all you need.

He is very nice but sometimes he is a little crazy.

Comments

A clause generally equals a sentence at A1 though learners do begin to coordinate clauses with 'and' and 'but'. See Coordinated Clauses.

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE DECLARATIVE, MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS

Can form an affirmative declarative clause with modal verbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

I can go to see her tomorrow.

I will visit you soon.

Comments

At A1, learners can use the clausal structure with modals can and 'will' and 'would' to a lesser degree (see entries on individual modal verbs)

FORM: NEGATIVE DECLARATIVE WITH 'BE'

Can form a simple negative declarative clause with lexical 'be' + 'not' or 'n't'.

Corrected Learner Examples

My college is not very big.

This place isn't big.

I'm not bad.

Comments

The range of examples of negative statement is limited to the present simple but the grammar of the clause structure is evidently known. Negative declaratives with the present continuous don't emerge until A2.

FORM: NEGATIVE DECLARATIVE, LEXICAL VERBS

Can form simple negative declarative clauses.

Corrected Learner Examples

I don't like maths.

I don't have children.

I don't know.

Comments

The range of examples of negative statement is limited to the present simple but the grammar of the clause structure is evidently known. Negative declaratives with the present continuous don't emerge until A2.

INTERROGATIVES

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE INTERROGATIVE, WITH 'BE'

Can form interrogative clauses with 'be'.

Corrected Learner Examples

How are you?

Are you ok?

Comments

There is evidence of question form at A1, but examples are generally task related. We have included interrogative clauses with 'be' at A1 here. This is probably indicative of passive understanding.

SUBORDINATED

FORM/USE: 'BECAUSE', REASONS

Can use a finite subordinate clause with 'because', after a main clause, to introduce reasons.

Corrected Learner Examples

I love her because she is friendly.

I like my television because it is big and modern.

CONJUNCTIONS

COORDINATING

FORM: CLAUSE + CLAUSE

Can use single word conjunctions ('and, but, or') to combine clauses.

Corrected Learner Examples

He is a journalist and he likes everything about cinema.

There are lots of shops in the town and the town is only five minutes away.

I have visited a lot of places, but the best place is Thailand.

I like to eat pasta or pizza, but I'm easy about food, I can eat anything.

We love to go to the cinema, or just sit together and have a laugh.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

He is journalist and he likes everythings about cinema, directors and caracteres.

There are lots of shops in the town and the town is only Five minits away.

I visit a lot of places, but the best place is Thailand.

I like to eat pasta or pizza, but I'm easy about food, I can eat anything.

We love to go in cinema or just sit together and have a laugh.

FORM: PHRASE + PHRASE

Can use single word conjunctions ('and, but, or') to combine phrases.

Corrected Learner Examples

My home is very light and very comfortable.

I live with my mother and her boyfriend.

My house is small but very nice.

She likes to go to the cinema or to the theatre.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

My home is very light and very comfortable.

I live with my mother and her boyfriend.

My house is small but very nice I like my house so much.

She likes go to the cinema or to the theatre.

FORM: SENTENCE + SENTENCE

Can use single word conjunctions ('and, but, or') to combine sentences.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like it because there are lots of shops, it is not too busy and there is lots of parking. And I like my home because it's not too big and it's a very nice flat.

I am from Estonia. Estonia it is a small country near the Baltic Sea. But now I live in Dorchester, because I work here.

I go shopping on Ladypool Road. Or sometimes I go to my local shop.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

And I like my home because it's not too big and it's very nice flat.

But now I live in Dorchester, because I work heare.

I go Shopping on ladypool Road.

Comments

This is more frequent in spoken language than written. Some teachers may consider it incorrect to begin a sentence with 'And' or 'But' in written language.

FORM: WORD + WORD

Can use single word conjunctions ('and, but, or') to connect single nouns and adjectives.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like chicken and rice. I don't like meat and fish.

My street is quiet and friendly.

On Monday and Wednesday I have English and maths.

I like my kitchen, it is small but nice.

I like cheese pizza or chicken.

I like to eat soup, eggs, meat and salad or banana and cheese.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Then I like eat with you but I like chicken and rice I don't like meat and fish.

My street is quiet and friendly.

On Monday and Wednesday I have English and maths.

I like my kitchen is small but nice.

I like cheese pizza or chicken.

I like to eat soup, eggs, meat and salad or banana and chees, tomato and drink orange juice.

USE: 'BUT', CONCESSIVE

Can use 'but' to add an unexpected contrast.

Corrected Learner Examples

I really like my home, it is very small but it is very easy to clean.

I like my home, it's small but so comfortable, and the decoration is beautiful.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I realy like my home, it is very small but it is very easy to clean.

I like my home, it's small but so confortable, the decoration is beautiful.

USE: LISTING

Can use 'and' and 'or' before the final item in a list.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like to eat chicken, mushrooms and some vegetables.

I have three rooms; a kitchen, living room, bathroom and toilet.

I go to college every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning,

I really like my English course because there are very good students from other countries, for example from Italy, Portugal, China and India.

I like to eat steak, vegetables, potatoes or rice.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I like to eat chicken, mashrooms and some vegetables.

I have three rooms, kitchen, living room, bathroom and toilet.

I am go to college every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning.

I really like my English course becouse there are very good students from other countries, for example from Italy, Polska, Portugal, Sudan, China and India.

I like to eat steak, vegetables, potatos or rice and sos on potatos.

Comments

There is no comma before the 'and' or 'or' in Br Eng, though there is one in UEng, in a list.

||'Or' only occurs four times at A1 but this could be a matter of the task. They don't use complex contrasting tasks. All of the four examples are in lists.

SUBORDINATING

FORM: 'BECAUSE'

Can use 'because' as a subordinating conjunction to introduce a subordinate clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

I want a big garden because I have children.

She likes meeting other people because she wants to improve her English.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I like with my home garden, I want big garden because I have children.
She likes meeting other people because she wants improve her english.*

DETERMINERS

ARTICLES

FORM/USE: NO ARTICLE

Can use no article before a limited range of singular, plural and uncountable nouns when referring to things in general.

Corrected Learner Examples

*In my free time I usually play football.
In my free time usually I stay at home. I watch TV, read books...
I like rice and sweet dishes.*

Uncorrected Learner Examples

*I In my free time usually I stay at home I watch TV, read books ...
In my free time I usually play football but when I see out side I stay at home and play games
on my computer or watch TV.*

FORM: 'A' + 'VERY' + ADJECTIVES

Can use 'a' + 'very' + adjectives in basic noun phrases. ► adverbs ► noun phrases

Corrected Learner Examples

*He's a very good man.
It is a very beautiful place.
It's a very nice town.*

Uncorrected Learner Examples

*He's a very good man.
It is a very beautiful place.
It's a very nice town.*

FORM: 'A' + ADJECTIVES

Can use 'a' and 'an' before adjectives in a noun phrase. ► adjectives ► noun phrases

Corrected Learner Examples

*You can make a quick snack, for example a sandwich.
We have a big garden and a small swimming pool.
I like it because it is an interesting place.
It's an old house, about 50 years old.*

Uncorrected Learner Examples

*You can make a quick snack, for example a sandwich.
We have a big garden and a small swimming pool.
I like it because it is an interesting place.
It's an old house about 50 years old.*

FORM: PREPOSITION + 'THE' + NOUN

Can use 'the' in prepositional phrases relating to time.

Corrected Learner Examples

I work at the weekend and I'm very busy from Monday to Friday.

I can come to see you on Friday in the morning.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

... I work at the weekend I'm very busy from Monday to Friday.

I can go to see you on Friday in the morning.

FORM: PREPOSITION + NO ARTICLE

Can use no article before a limited range of nouns in some fixed expressions with prepositions.

Corrected Learner Examples

If you are at home, I can come tomorrow.

We are going to the sports centre by car.

I go to college every day.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

If you are at home I can come tomorrow.

We are going to the sports centre by car.

I go to college every day.

FORM: WITH NOUNS

Can use articles 'the', 'a' and 'an' before nouns. ► noun phrases

Corrected Learner Examples

She lives in a small flat in the town – it's great!

I have an appointment with my G.P. at 5.45 pm.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

... she lives in a small flat in the town – it's great!

I have an appointment with my G.p at 5:45 pm.

DEMONSTRATIVES**FORM: 'THIS' WITH SINGULAR NOUNS**

Can use 'this' with singular nouns. ► noun phrases ► pronouns: demonstrative

Corrected Learner Examples

I like this place because it is very nice and quiet.

If you like, then we can go this Saturday.

USE: 'THIS', FUTURE

Can use 'this' with time and date words to refer to 'the one that's coming'.

Corrected Learner Examples

... this summer I want to spend my holiday in my country, Bulgaria.

I have a good plan for this weekend.

I'll call you this evening.

USE: 'THIS', POINTING

Can use 'this' in a limited range of contexts to refer to places from the speaker's or writer's point of view. ► noun phrases ► pronouns: demonstrative

Corrected Learner Examples

I want to let you know about this area and the shops near here.

The football class and tennis class are the best things about this college.

I like this place because there are many cultures.

POSSESSIVES

FORM: WITH NOUNS

Can use possessive determiners 'my', 'your', 'his', 'her' and 'our' before nouns. ► noun phrases
► possessive pronouns

Corrected Learner Examples

I live with my family. My home is a flat.

... my neighbours are very nice and helpful.

I like my teachers.

I live with my mother and her boyfriend.

Our house has four rooms, one bathroom and one toilet.

Comments

There is evidence at A1 for the use of 'my', 'your', 'his', 'her', and 'our'. 'Their' doesn't appear until B1 in the CLC. This may be due to lack of opportunity of use.

QUANTITY

FORM: WITH PLURAL NOUNS

Can use a limited range of quantifying determiners with plural nouns ('some', 'lots of', 'a lot of' and numbers).

Corrected Learner Examples

Near my home there are some shops.

My house has got three rooms.

I had a lot of friends in this town.

For homework we have to write lots of things.

Comments

Note that some and 'a lot of', 'lots of' can be used with uncountable nouns too, but there is not enough evidence of successful use with uncountables at A1.

FORM: WITH SINGULAR NOUNS

Can use a limited range of quantifying determiners with singular nouns ('a', 'every'). ► determiners: articles

Corrected Learner Examples

In my home are 3 bedrooms. I have a big kitchen and small toilet.

The first floor has two bedrooms and a big bathroom with a bath.

I go to India every year to see my friends and family.

I go to college every day.

Comments

There is evidence of one at A1 but mainly used in error instead of 'a' or 'an'. Note that these determiners can only be used with singular nouns

FUTURE

FUTURE SIMPLE (WITH WILL AND SHALL)

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE 'WILL'

Can use the affirmative forms 'will' and 'll'.

Corrected Learner Examples

I will see you soon.

I'll come at 7 o'clock.

Comments

At this level learners are using this form, but the data comes from limited contexts, e.g. visiting someone at their house. Use of this feature greatly increases at A2.

USE: PLANS AND INTENTIONS WITH 'WILL'

Can use 'will' and 'll' to talk about plans and intentions.

Corrected Learner Examples

I will try to come to see you tomorrow.

I'll bring a football ball with me.

MODALITY

CAN

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the affirmative form.

Corrected Learner Examples

You can see a lot of special places in Wroclaw.

You can make a quick snack, for example, a sandwich.

FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use the negative forms.

Corrected Learner Examples

I cannot come to see you.

I'm very nervous and I can't say anything.

FORM: QUESTION

Can use the affirmative question form.

Corrected Learner Examples

Can you come for dinner Monday at 6.00 pm?

Can we go to the park on the Sunday?

USE: ABILITY

Can use 'can' to talk about ability to do something.

Corrected Learner Examples

I can cook.

I can write English.

[talking about someone with a physical disability] He cannot go up stairs.

[talking about reading in English] I can't read very well.

USE: OFFERS

Can use 'can' to make an offer.

Corrected Learner Examples

Can I help you?

What can I do for you?

How can I help you?

If you want, I can come to your house and I can help you with for example some housework on Sunday this weekend.

USE: POSSIBILITY

Can use 'can' to talk about possibility.

Corrected Learner Examples

The shop is next to the post office. There you can find milk, juices and sweets but you can't buy meat.

I cannot see you today.

I'm sorry I can't see you now because I am very busy at work.

USE: REQUESTS

Can use 'can' to make a request.

Corrected Learner Examples

Can you come on Sunday at seven o'clock?

Can you call me?

WILL

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the affirmative forms.

Corrected Learner Examples

I will be at your house at 7.30 because I have an appointment before.

I'll come to see you tomorrow morning.

USE: PLANS AND INTENTIONS

Can use 'will' to talk about plans and intentions.

Corrected Learner Examples

*I will bring some music to the dinner.
I'll see you tomorrow.*

Comments

Use of 'will' at this level is limited to the context of plans and arrangements, often to do with 'coming to your house', probably due to task effect.

WOULD

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE WITH 'LIKE'

Can use the affirmative form with 'like'.

Corrected Learner Examples

*I'd like to invite you to dinner.
I would like to eat some Spanish food.*

USE: INVITATIONS WITH 'LIKE'

Can use 'would like to invite' to make invitations.

Corrected Learner Examples

*I would like to invite you to dinner in my house on Saturday at 7 30 pm.
Dear Neighbours, I would like to invite you to my home for dinner.*

USE: WISHES AND PREFERENCES WITH 'LIKE'

Can use 'would like' to talk about wishes and preferences.

Corrected Learner Examples

*If possible, I'd like to come to see you on Tuesday afternoon.
I would like to eat chicken, potatoes and some vegetables.*

NEGATION

NEGATION

FORM: AUXILIARY VERB 'DO', PRESENT

Can form negative statements of main verbs in the present simple with 'don't' + main verb. ► present simple ► can

Corrected Learner Examples

*I don't have a dining room, so we eat in the living room.
We don't like other lessons, for example: French language.*

Comments

The majority of the occurrences of 'do + not' at A1 are contracted to 'don't'. All instances of 'can + not' at A1 are contracted to 'can't'. NB negative of main verb 'have' with 'do' at A1 but auxiliary 'have' with 'not/n't' at A2

FORM: MAIN VERB 'BE'

Can form negative statements of main verb 'be', with contracted and uncontracted forms.

Corrected Learner Examples

My college is not very big.

I know you are not well.

I'm not a good swimmer.

This place isn't big.

FORM: MODAL VERB 'CAN'

Can use negative form 'can't'.

Corrected Learner Examples

In winter, we can't go visiting because it is too cold.

I can't find my CD.

Comments

Note only 'can't (not cannot)' used at A1.

NOUNS

NOUN PHRASES

FORM: ADJECTIVE + PLURAL NOUN

Can form simple noun phrases by pre-modifying plural nouns with an adjective and no determiner.

Corrected Learner Examples

I have new neighbours.

They're nice people.

This place has nice shops.

I like reading interesting books in the Library.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I have new neighbours.

They're nice people.

This place has nice shops.

FORM: DETERMINER + ADJECTIVE + NOUN

Can form simple noun phrases by pre-modifying singular and plural nouns with an adjective after a determiner.

Corrected Learner Examples

Martin is my best friend.

We have a big garden and a small swimming pool.

Her favourite colours are blue and black.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Martin is my best friend.

We have a big garden and a small swimming pool.

Her favourite colors are blue and black.

FORM: DETERMINER + NOUN

Can form simple noun phrases with a limited range of determiners + singular and plural nouns. ► Nouns and noun phrases: functions

Corrected Learner Examples

There is also a park near my house.

My husband is a teacher.

That's why I like this place.

I go to college every day.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

There is also a park near my house.

My husband is a teacher.

That's why I like this place.

I go to college every day.

Comments

In these examples we have instances of noun phrases as part of prepositional phrases. We've covered this use in the profiles on Prepositional phrases and in the profile on Noun phrases: uses.

FORM: NOUN + NOUN

Can form noun phrases by pre-modifying a limited range of nouns with another noun.

Corrected Learner Examples

Every Friday I go swimming and play computer games.

I am having a dinner party on Friday 25 December at 7 pm.

Can you come to my house on Friday evening?

My girlfriend likes vegetable pasta with tomato sauce, because she is vegetarian.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Every friday I swimming and play computer games.

I having a dinner party on Friday 25 December 7p.m.

Can you come to my house on Friday evening.

My girlfriend likes vegetable pasta with tomato sauce, because she is vegetarian.

Comments

There is obvious growth in the use of noun modifying noun all through the levels, in line with typical lexical development.

NOUN PHRASES – GRAMMATICAL FUNCTIONS**FORM: AS ADJUNCTS**

Can use nouns and noun phrases as adjuncts in some time expressions.

Corrected Learner Examples

But if not, then I will see you tomorrow morning.

I can go to see her tomorrow because I am going to a job interview today.

I will write to you again next week.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

But if not, then I will go to see you tomorrow morning.

I can go to see her tomorrow because i will go to the interview for job today.

I will write to you again next week

FORM: AS COMPLEMENT OF 'BE'

Can use nouns and noun phrases as complements of the verb 'be'.

Corrected Learner Examples

There is a big garden.

Hi Rie, It's Mohamad.

He is a student in B6 College.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

There is a big garden.

Dear/Rie Hi Rie, It's Mohamad.

He is a student in B6 College.

FORM: AS COMPLEMENT OF PREPOSITIONS

Can use nouns and noun phrases as complements of prepositions in prepositional phrases.

Corrected Learner Examples

I invite you and your family to come to my house for dinner.

I like everything in my house.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I invite you and your family to come to my house for dinner.

I like everything in my house

FORM: AS OBJECTS

Can use nouns and noun phrases as objects of the clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

I love my house.

When I have time, I visit my family.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I love my house

When I have time I go visit my family.

FORM: AS SUBJECTS

Can use nouns and noun phrases as subjects of the clause.

Corrected Learner Examples

His name is Stanislav.

My friends are from Poland, Hungary, Libya, and Morocco.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

His name is Stanislav.

My friends are from Poland, Hungary, Libya, Marocco

Comments

Although the range of examples is limited, the evidence shows that at A1 learners can use noun phrases in all clause positions.

PLURAL

FORM: PLURAL '-S'

Can form plurals by adding '-s' to common countable nouns.

Corrected Learner Examples

We play computer games.

You have to walk just 5 minutes down the road.

My favourite season is summer, because it's very hot and there are a lot of flowers and nice trees.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

We play computer games.

You have to walk just 5 minutes down the road.

My favourite weather in summer, because it's very hot and it has a lot of flowers and nice trees.

Comments

NB words not ending in '-o', '-ch', '-s', '-sh', '-x', '-z' or '-y'

TYPES

FORM: COMMON NOUNS

Can use a limited range of common nouns.

Corrected Learner Examples

My house is in Ilford.

In my free time I go shopping and I like swimming.

My friend is called Jessica.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

My house is in Ilford.

In my free time I go shopping and I like swimming.

My friend is called Jessica.

Comments

Noun development is related to vocabulary development cf. 'The English Vocabulary Profile'.

We have not divided nouns into concrete and abstract in this profile because the choice in their use relates more to the task posed to the learner. Typically at this level, they are asked to talk about more concrete matters.

FORM: COMPOUND NOUNS

Can use a range of compound nouns, as one-word, two-word and hyphenated compounds, formed from verb + noun, noun + noun and adjective + noun combinations.

Corrected Learner Examples

She likes to go to the swimming pool and to the gym.

There are seven rooms: three bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen and there are two bathrooms.

My house is next to the bus stop.

My home is in Belfast, near the city centre.

There's a supermarket and a post office.

He likes sports like ice-hockey and table tennis.

I buy wines and ice-cream.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

She likes to go to the swimming pool and to the gym.

There are seven rooms three bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen There are two bathrooms.

My house is next to the bus stop.

My home is in Belfast near the city centre.

There's supermarket, a post office.

He likes sports ice-hockey, table tennis.

I buy, wines, and ice-cream.

FORM: PROPER NOUNS

Can use proper nouns with a capital letter to refer to specific people, places, days and things.

Corrected Learner Examples

I want to see you on Saturday and Sunday.

In Leicester I live in an area called Hamilton.

This place is Gloscat College in Gloucester.

My friend is called Monika , she comes from Poland.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I want see you on Saturday and Sunday.

In Leicester I live in area call Hamilton.

This place is Gloscat College in Gloucester.

My friend is Monika , she come from Poland.

PAST

PAST SIMPLE

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the affirmative form with a limited range of regular and irregular verbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

Every day at college I went to class at 9 am.

I met her about ten years ago.

My grandmother lived in a village and I often went there.

USE: EVERYDAY EVENTS AND STATES

Can use the past simple to talk about everyday events or states.

Corrected Learner Examples

The people were very polite.

Every time I went to Hendon Park, I saw so many people there.

I liked this place very much.

PREPOSITIONS

PREPOSITIONS

FORM: PREPOSITION + NOUN PHRASE

Can form prepositional phrases with a preposition and a noun phrase.

Corrected Learner Examples

When I have free time, I go to the park with my dog.

We have lots of vegetables and fruit in the summer.

We sometimes meet friends or go to the Sports Center at the weekend.

FORM: SIMPLE

Can use a limited range of simple (single-word) prepositions.

Corrected Learner Examples

I'm sending some flowers to you.

He works in Bognor Regis.

I can cook some food for you.

I usually go shopping with her in Chester.

Can you come on Saturday at five o'clock in the afternoon?

I will come to your house on time.

Comments

Other prepositions used successfully at A1: 'from', 'of', 'about', 'near', 'as', 'after'

PRESENT

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the affirmative form.

Corrected Learner Examples

I am sending you some flowers, because you are not well.

I am writing to tell you what I do every day at college.

USE: EVENTS IN PROGRESS

Can use the present continuous with a limited range of verbs to talk about situations and events in progress.

Corrected Learner Examples

[in a message to someone who is ill] We are missing you.

I am sending you these flowers because I think that you will like these pretty flowers and you will get well soon.

I really like it when we are doing more speaking.

PRESENT SIMPLE

FORM: AFFIRMATIVE

Can use the affirmative form with a limited range of regular and irregular verbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

Every day at college I learn new words and new things.

I am your new neighbour.

She plays tennis and she likes going to the swimming pool.

FORM: NEGATIVE

Can use the negative form with a limited range of regular and irregular verbs.

Corrected Learner Examples

I don't like meat and fish.

You don't know the place.

FORM: WITH 'REALLY'

Can use the present simple with the adverb 'really' as an intensifier. ► adverbs

Corrected Learner Examples

I really like my kitchen, because it is big and new and it makes my cooking easy.

I really want to see you.

USE: HABITS AND GENERAL FACTS

Can use the present simple to talk about repeated events or habits, and general facts.

Corrected Learner Examples

I work in a supermarket.

I like my place because it is quiet, the people are nice, it is near the town centre, not too far from the college and my flat is lovely.

It takes 25 minutes by car, but by bus it takes 1 hour ?

I watch TV in the evening. I read books at night.

She goes to work by bus.

PRONOUNS

INDEFINITE – THING, –ONE, –BODY ETC

FORM: 'EVERYTHING', SUBJECT

Can use 'everything' as subject, with a singular verb.

Corrected Learner Examples

I hope everything is all right.

[talking about the countryside] Everything is nice and green there.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I hope everything is all right.

[talking about the countryside] Everything is nice and green there.

Comments

Everything is the only pronoun here that appears as a subject at this level. This may be due to lack of opportunity of use or task effect. At this level it is the most common collocate.

FORM: OBJECT

Can use a limited range of indefinite pronouns as objects.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like doing everything at College because I love my college ?

I like to eat everything.

I can clean your house and cook something for you.

If you need anything, please let me know.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I like doing everything at College because I love my college ?

I can clean your house and cook something for you.

I like to eat everything.

If you need anything please let me know.

SUBJECT / OBJECT

FORM: (OBJECT) 'IT'

Can use the pronoun 'it' as a direct object to refer to an object or situation already referred to.

Corrected Learner Examples

The maths is boring and I don't like it.

If you can't find it, call me.

Do you like it too?

FORM: (OBJECT) 'ME', 'YOU', 'HER', 'HIM', 'US', 'THEM'

Can use the pronouns 'me', 'you', 'him', 'her', 'us' and 'them' in the direct object position after a transitive verb.

Corrected Learner Examples

I'm very happy that you want to see me.

I can see her on Saturday at 8 pm.

It protects us from rain, wind and sun.

You will find a lot of different shops ? I hope you'll like them.

FORM: (OBJECT) WITH PREPOSITION

Can use the object pronouns 'me', 'you', 'him', 'her', 'it', 'us' and 'them' in the object position after prepositions.

Corrected Learner Examples

I really like to learn new words. It's very important for me.

Sometimes I go with her.

Can you bring some music so we can listen to it.

I spend my free time with them.

FORM: (SUBJECT) 'IT' FOR FIRST PERSON

Can use the pronoun 'it' before 'be' to refer to a first person speaker or writer.

Corrected Learner Examples

Hello Mrs Bishop. It's Clarisse.

Dear Cris, it's me, Paarth.

FORM: (SUBJECT) QUESTIONS

Can use the pronouns 'I', 'you', 'we' and 'they' after an auxiliary or modal verb in question forms.

Corrected Learner Examples

Can I help you?

What do you think about that?

Can we have a chat?

FORM: (SUBJECT) QUESTIONS WITH 'BE'

Can use the pronouns 'you' and 'it' after 'be' in question forms.

Corrected Learner Examples

Hi, Mrs. Bishop. How are you?

Is it OK?

FORM: (SUBJECT) STATEMENTS

Can use the pronouns 'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'it', 'we' and 'they' in the subject position before a verb in statements.

Corrected Learner Examples

In my free time I go shopping and I like swimming.

If you want, you can go inside.

He prefers chess.

My friend's name is Julissa, she is from Ecuador and she lives near my home.

I like my home because it is a beautiful home. It has a big garden and a good sitting room.

I like my front garden because it's very nice and warm.

They're nice people.

QUESTIONS

YES/NO

FORM: MODAL VERBS

Can use a limited range of modal verbs + subject + main verb to form 'yes/no' questions. ►
can

Corrected Learner Examples

Can you come to dinner in my house?

I can't find my CD, can you bring some music please?

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Can you come to dinner in my house?

I can't find my CD, can you bring some music please?

Comments

There is formulaic use of 'would you like' ? at A1 but no other use of 'would' in questions at A1.

VERBS

LINKING

FORM: 'BE' + COMPLEMENT

Can use linking verb 'be' with complements.

Corrected Learner Examples

Because today is my birthday.

Martin is from Poland.

My house is very clean.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Because today is my birthday.

Martin is from Poland.

My house is very clean.

Comments

At A1 the following types of complements are used: noun phrase, prepositional phrase, adjective phrase.

PATTERNS_WITH TO AND -ING

FORM: 'LIKE' + 'TO'-INFINITIVE OR + '-ING'

Can use 'like' followed either by a 'to'-infinitive or an '-ing' form, with no change in meaning.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like to work with my teacher.

I don't like to eat at College.

I like reading lots of magazines.

I don't like doing homework in college.

I like learning grammar.

I like travelling by car.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I like reading lots of magazines.

I don't like doing home work in college.

I like learning grammar: Present Continues, Present Simple, Past Simple, and new things.

I like traveling by car.

I like to work with my teacher.

I don't like to eat at College.

FORM: 'WOULD LIKE TO'

Can use 'would like to' + infinitive.

Corrected Learner Examples

I would like to meet you to give you some information about the Brannl State and the shops near her.

I'd like to invite you on Sunday about six o'clock in the evening.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I would like to meet you to gave you some informtion about the Brannl State and the shops near her.

I'd like to invite you on Sunday about six o'clock in the evening.

Comments

This pattern of 'would like' + 'to' + infinitive seems to be well established at A1. There are only three instances of incorrect use (i.e. 'would like' + '-ing': 'I would like walking').

FORM: VERB + 'TO'-INFINITIVE

Can use a limited range of verbs followed by a 'to'- infinitive.

Corrected Learner Examples

I like to go to the zoo.

Sometimes I don't like to go out because It's very cold.

I want to invite you for dinner.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I like to go to the zoo.

Sometimes I don't like to go out because It's very cold.

I want to invite you for dinner.

PREPOSITIONAL

FORM: VERB + PREPOSITION + OBJECT

Can use a limited range of prepositional verbs followed by noun or pronoun objects.

Corrected Learner Examples

I listen to music in the living room, and also eat my breakfast, lunch and dinner.

I can look after her if she needs to do shopping and cleaning.

I like to walk in the woods and look for mushrooms.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I listen to music in the living room, and also eat my breakfast, launch and dinner.

I can look after her if she needs do shopping and cleaning.

I like to walk in the woods and look for mushrooms.

THERE IS/ARE

FORM: 'THERE ARE'

Can use 'there are' + plural noun phrase as complement.

Corrected Learner Examples

There are two bathrooms.

There are many shops and schools.

I think, in the park there are animals.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

There are two bathrooms.

There are many shops and schools.

I think, in the park there are animals.

Comments

While there are uncountable nouns at A1, learners are not competently using them with there is until A2, e.g. 'I like my home because there are lovely furniture.' (A1 BREAKTHROUGH; 2009; Italian; Pass)

FORM: 'THERE IS'

Can use 'there is' + singular noun phrase as complement.

Corrected Learner Examples

My home is nice, there is a nice garden.

In my College there is a big library.

In my home there are two bedrooms, there's a kitchen, there's a bathroom and a living-room.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

My home is nice there is a nice garden.

In my College there is a big library.

In my home there are two bedrooms, there's a kitchen, there's a bathroom and a living-room.

TYPES

FORM: AUXILIARY VERB 'BE'

Can use auxiliary verb 'be'. ► present continuous

Corrected Learner Examples

I am writing to tell you what I do every day at college.

I'm working today.

We are going to the park.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I am writing to tell you what I do every day at college.

Because I'm working today.

We are going to the park.

FORM: LINKING VERB, 'BE'

Can use linking verb 'be'.

Corrected Learner Examples

I am 22 years old.

There are 4 rooms.

And I like my home because it's not too big and it's a very nice flat.

It was very nice.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

I am 22 years old.

There are 4 rooms.

And I like my home because it's not too big and it's very nice flat.

It was very nice.

FORM: MAIN VERBS

Can use regular and irregular main verbs in simple verb phrases. ► present simple ► past simple

Corrected Learner Examples

You know, I love your cooking!

I have very good friends.

She comes from India.

She has long, dark hair and brown eyes.

He gets up at 6 o'clock and goes to work.

I heard from our neighbours about you.

My grandmother lived in a village and I often went there.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

You know, I love your cooking!

I have very good friends.

She comes from India.

She has long, dark hair and brown eyes.

He gets up at 6 o'clock and goes to work.

I heard from our neighbours about you.

My grandmother lived in a village and I often went there.

Comments

There are many examples of verbs, both regular and irregular, used correctly to show person, number and tense when talking about the first person. At A1 there are examples with the third person so while they can 'do' the third person form of main verbs, there are still a lot of errors. This is covered in the EGP profiles on tenses.

FORM: MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS

Can use a limited range of modal auxiliary verbs ('can', 'will', 'would').

Corrected Learner Examples

Can you bring some music with you to the dinner.

I'll be very happy to help you.

I would like to eat some Spanish food.

Uncorrected Learner Examples

Can you bring with you some music to the dinner.

I'll be very happy to help you.

I would like to eat some Spanish food.