



Learn English Through Stories

# **Pre- intermediate Grammar**

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## **Banta and the Shopping by K S Sandhu**

Reeta is Banta's wife. Today she is not at home. She writes a note for Banta because she is going to see her mum. Her mum is not well.

The note says:

Sorry, Banta – I'm going to see Mum because she's not well. Can you put the shopping away? Thanks a lot!

Banta comes home from work. He sees the shopping bags in the kitchen. He reads Reeta's note and starts to help.

First, he looks at the meat. The note says: "The steaks are for dinner tonight, so put them in the fridge." Banta opens the fridge. There are two big steaks. He puts the steaks inside. "One steak for me, one steak for Reeta," he thinks. "Two steaks in the fridge. Good."

Next, the eggs. "Take the eggs out of the boxes and put them in the fridge, too," the note says. Banta is very careful. One box has six eggs. The other box has six eggs too. Now there are twelve eggs in the fridge door. "An egg is small. Eggs are not strong," he says quietly.

Then he finds a green bag. There are some apples and some bananas in it. "Put them in the bowls on the table," the note says. Banta puts six red apples in one bowl. He puts five yellow bananas in another bowl. The table looks colourful and nice. "An apple a day is good. Apples are sweet. Bananas are yellow and soft," he smiles.

There are also two loaves of bread. "Put one of them in the fridge, please," the note says. Banta puts one loaf in the fridge. The other loaf stays on the table for tomorrow. "One loaf is cold now. One loaf is here," he says.

In the last bag, there are clothes. Banta sees a pair of new blue jeans. The note says: "The jeans are for Santa – can you put them in his room?" Santa is Banta's younger brother. He lives with Banta and Reeta. Everyone calls him Santa because he loves Christmas.

Banta takes the jeans to Santa's room. He puts them on the bed. "A pair of jeans for my brother," he thinks. "Santa will like them."

Now everything is in the right place. The fridge has steaks, eggs, and one loaf of bread. The table has bowls with apples and bananas. The jeans are in Santa's room.

Banta feels happy. He helps Reeta. He writes a small note for her:

Dear Reeta,

I put all the shopping away.

Steaks and eggs – in the fridge.

Apples and bananas – in the bowls.

One loaf in the fridge, one on the table.

Jeans – in Santa's room.

I hope your mum feels better soon.

Love, Banta.

Banta sits down and waits for Reeta to come home.

## Before you start

- 1 Read about the market. Look at the **highlighted** grammar examples.



**FRENCH MARKET**

Try **some** exciting new food this weekend!

A French market will be in Frampton on Saturday and Sunday. There will be **a lot of** interesting things, including:

- Mediterranean fruit and **vegetables**
- cheese from Normandy
- French bread and cakes
- **chocolate** from Paris
- **a few** clothes and a little jewellery

**All the food** and drink is from France.

The market will be in **North Square** on both days from 9.00 to 18.00.

- 2 Now read the sentences. Choose the correct words in *italics*. The **highlighted** grammar examples will help you.

- 1 Do you eat *vegetable* / *vegetables*?
- 2 I really like French *food* / *foods*.
- 3 *Belgian chocolate* / *A Belgian chocolate* is delicious.
- 4 There's *a* / *an* new restaurant in the town.
- 5 *A* / *The* new supermarket in the town centre is really cheap.
- 6 Let's meet at the food hall in *Sloane Square* / *the Sloane Square*.
- 7 There's always *some* / *any* interesting food at the market.
- 8 There are *much* / *a lot of* markets in this area.
- 9 They sell *a little* / *a few* clothes at the market, too.
- 10 It's an Italian shop. *All* / *Some* the food is from Italy.

- Unit 1
- Unit 2
- Unit 3
- Unit 4
- Unit 5
- Unit 6
- Unit 7
- Unit 8
- Unit 9
- Unit 10

- 3 Check your answers below. Then go to the unit for more information and practice.

1 vegetables 2 food 3 Belgian chocolate 4 a 5 The  
6 Sloane Square 7 some 8 a lot of 9 a few 10 All

# 1 Singular and plural nouns



## 1 Nouns

A noun is a person, a place or a thing:  
*a waiter a town a pizza a melon*  
*an apple an egg a steak*

In writing, names of people, places, days, months, etc. begin with a capital letter:

*John Smith Mr Brown*  
*Vancouver Oxford Street*  
*Saturday September May Day*

## 2 Singular and plural nouns

Most nouns can be singular (one) or plural (more than one):

SINGULAR *a pizza a melon a banana an apple an egg*  
 PLURAL *two pizzas three melons four bananas five apples some eggs*

We usually add -s to a singular noun to make it plural, but some nouns are different:

NOUNS THAT END IN		PLURAL
<i>s, ss, sh, ch, and x</i> (and <i>potato, tomato</i> )	add -es	<i>buses, classes, dishes, watches, boxes, potatoes</i>
consonant ( <i>b, c, d, etc.</i> ) + <i>y</i> ( <i>ay, ey, oy</i> )	change <i>y</i> to <i>i</i> and add -es (add -s)	<i>families, babies, countries</i> <i>days, valleys, toys</i>
<i>f</i> or <i>fe</i>	change <i>f</i> to <i>v</i> and add -es	<i>loaves, wives, scarves</i>

The plural form of a few nouns is different. We call these irregular nouns:

SINGULAR *man woman child person foot tooth penny fish sheep*  
 PLURAL *men women children people feet teeth pence fish sheep*

Spelling rules ► page 316

Pronunciation ► 1.02

## 3 Noun + verb

We use different verb forms with singular and plural nouns:

singular noun + singular verb	plural noun + plural verb
Our teacher <u>is</u> British.	Those students <u>are</u> Japanese.
The bus <u>leaves</u> at 8.30.	The buses <u>leave</u> from the town centre.

Some nouns are always plural:

*clothes*  
*jeans*  
*shorts*  
*scissors*  
*trousers*  
*(reading) glasses*

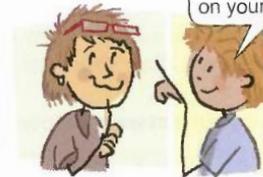
We can also say:

*a pair of jeans a pair of shorts a pair of scissors*

These trousers are long.



Your glasses are on your head.



# Practice

## 1 Write the plural form of the nouns.

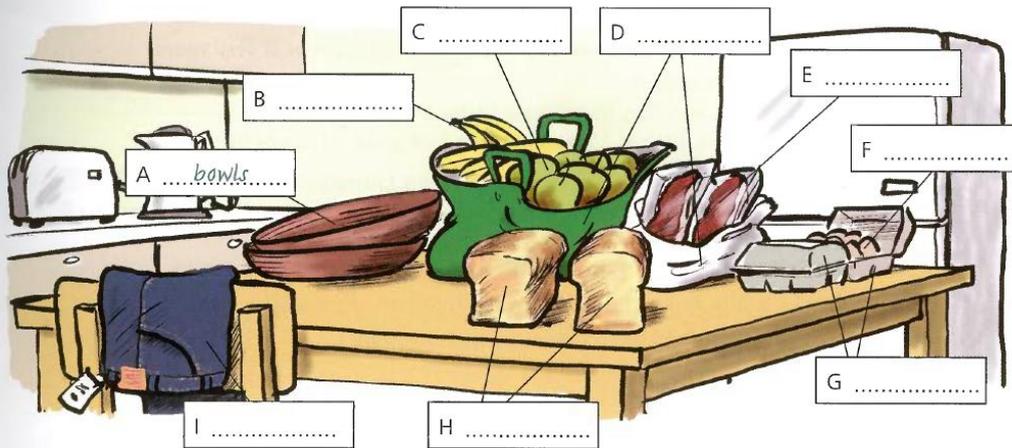
+ -s	+ -es	+ -ies	+ -ves	irregular
		<i>babies</i>		

baby box car child  
class country day  
exercise family foot  
loaf man scarf  
watch wife

## 2 Match the two parts of the sentences. **2.02** Listen and check.

- |                          |   |                      |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 0 1 My brothers          | → | A walks to work.     |
| 2 My brother             | → | B walk to work.      |
| 1 1 Our English teacher  |   | A come from London.  |
| 2 Our English teachers   |   | B comes from London. |
| 2 1 The children         |   | A is sick in bed.    |
| 2 Jan's child            |   | B are sick in bed.   |
| 3 1 My feet              |   | A are hurting.       |
| 2 My foot                |   | B is hurting.        |
| 4 1 Your reading glasses |   | A is on the table.   |
| 2 Your glass of water    |   | B are on the table.  |

## 3 Write the plural form of the nouns in the picture.



## 4 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the note with nouns from Exercise 3 or a form of the verb *be*. **2.03** Listen and check.

Sorry, James – I'm going to see Mum because she's not well.  
Can you put the shopping away? Thanks.  
The steaks (0) *are* for dinner tonight, so can you put them in the fridge?  
Can you take the eggs out of the (1) *box* and put them in the fridge, too?  
There are some (2) *bananas* and (3) *apples* in the green bag – put  
them in the two (4) *loaves* on the table. There are two (5) *loaves* of  
bread, too – can you put one of them in the fridge, please? The jeans  
(6) *are* for Simon – can you put them in his room?  
See you later – I hope the interview was OK. Maureen

## Answers

### Module 1

#### UNIT 1

**1**

+ -s	+ -es	+ -ies	+ -ves	irregular
<i>cars</i>	<i>boxes</i>	<i>babies</i>	<i>loaves</i>	<i>children</i>
<i>days</i>	<i>classes</i>	<i>countries</i>	<i>scarves</i>	<i>feet</i>
<i>exercises</i>	<i>watches</i>	<i>families</i>	<i>wives</i>	<i>men</i>

**2** 1 1B 2A 2 1B 2A 3 1A 2B 4 1B 2A

**3** B bananas C apples D bags E steaks  
F eggs G boxes H loaves I jeans/trousers

**4** 1 boxes 2 apples/bananas 3 bananas/apples  
4 bowls 5 loaves 6 are