Practice Speaking English with English Grammar Dialogues

20 Simple Dialogues in the Simple Tenses

By Really Learn English
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How to Use the Dialogues

Use the dialogues to practice the simple tenses and speaking English.

It is important to read the dialogues aloud.

The special thing about these dialogues is that they only use one tense per dialogue. Moreover, there are five dialogues for every tense. That way the student can practice each tense to perfection.

There are several ways to use the dialogues:

• In a private lesson, the teacher and student read the dialogue together. The teacher reads the lines of the first character and the student reads the lines of the second character. Then they switch and reread the dialogue. Now the student reads the lines of the first character and the teacher reads the lines of the second character.

• With more than one student, divide the students into pairs. Student A reads the lines of the first character and Student B reads the lines of the second character. Then they switch and reread that dialogue. Now Student A reads the lines of the second character and Student B reads the lines of the first character.

• After reading, encourage a conversation on the topic and using the same tense.

Since contractions are very common in spoken English, the dialogues have many contractions. Refer to the contraction table at the end of this book to see all contractions and their full forms.

IMPORTANT: To get the most out of these materials, make sure the students understand all the words used. Do not let them guess words from context. If the students encounter a new or unclear word, explain to them what it means, or have them use the dictionary. For more on that read the article Building Vocabulary and Some Common Mistakes.
Daniel: Hi Amanda! Thanks for coming.

Amanda: You’re welcome! I’m always happy to have dinner at a nice restaurant. I’m always hungry.

Daniel: You’re funny! Have a seat. How are you?

Amanda: I’m good, thank you. How are you?

Daniel: I’m good too.

Amanda: Thank you for the invitation. What looks good on the menu?

Daniel: I always order the lobster. Do you like lobster? It’s on me.

Amanda: Wow, thank you. You’re so generous. I also love lobster, but it’s too expensive. Meatloaf always sounds good to me.

Daniel: Do you like fruit shakes?

Amanda: I love fruit shakes! My favorite is strawberry banana.

Daniel: That’s so cool. Strawberry banana is my favorite too. You know, you make me a little bit nervous.

Amanda: You make me a little bit nervous too. At least we always agree on everything.

Daniel: You really are funny!

Amanda: Yes, I’m funny. See, we agree again.

Daniel: Ha! Well, what’s your favorite movie?

Amanda: Rocky.
Daniel: Rocky? Well, that’s an odd choice. Mine’s Star Wars.

Amanda: Star Wars?

Daniel: Yes, so apparently we don’t agree on everything!

Amanda: What about books? What’s your favorite book?

Daniel: My favorite book is Brave New World. I read it over and over again.

Amanda: Oh. I don’t know that book, but it sounds good. My favorite book is The Call of the Wild.

Daniel: I know that book! It scares me. I can’t believe that’s your favorite! So, you must love dogs? I love dogs.

Amanda: Not really. I like cats.

Daniel: Oh. Okay. What about sports? Do you like sports? I love golf. I love to play golf, to watch golf, and to talk about golf. I even dream about golf!

Amanda: I watch professional wrestling. I go to matches and I watch them on television. I even have a collection of t-shirts.

Daniel: What? That’s weird!

Amanda: I’m sorry!

Daniel: No, don’t be sorry. We’re just different. We can deal with that.

Amanda: Well, so much for the idea that we agree on everything.

Daniel: We still can! We just have to agree to disagree!

Amanda: Deal!

Daniel: Yes, it’s a deal!
Simple Present, Dialogue 5
Description: A father and daughter talk.

Daughter: Daddy, my birthday is on July 23rd.

Father: Yes honey, I know. I’m your father, remember?

Daughter: I always have a birthday party on my birthday.

Father: Yes honey, I know.

Daughter: This year, I want to have my party at the waterpark.

Father: The waterpark?

Daughter: Yes. My friends like to swim and slide down the waterslides. The waterpark is so much fun.

Father: I don’t know honey, the waterpark is expensive. And we don’t want your presents to get all wet.

Daughter: Oh. I didn’t know the waterpark is expensive. What about the zoo? I want to have my party at the zoo.

Father: I don’t think so honey. Not everyone likes the zoo. Plus, the zoo is expensive too.

Daughter: Do they let kids ride the giraffes?

Father: Ha! You’re silly. I’m pretty sure that giraffe rides are against the rules. What about a party at our house?

Daughter: I don’t want to have my party at our house. Our house is boring. We don’t have any giraffes. Or waterslides.

Father: I think we need to change the subject. What do you want for your birthday?

Daughter: You mean presents?
Father: Yes, I mean presents. What do you want for presents? What does a five-year-old girl need these days?

Daughter: I want a princess dress. A long, pink princess dress.

Father: Is that all?

Daughter: I want a princess crown too.

Father: Is that it?

Daughter: And princess shoes ... and princess earrings ... and a princess necklace.

Father: Is that it?

Daughter: Yes.

Father: Okay, let’s see what we can do.

Daughter: Daddy?

Father: Yes honey?

Daughter: I want a princess doll too. Princess dolls are beautiful. I like to play with their hair. So, I need some hair brushes too.

Father: Okay, maybe. Your list is a little long.

Daughter: Well, you have lots of money, right?

Father: No, I only have a little bit of money.

Daughter: Well, how much does a princess doll cost?

Father: I don’t know honey, but we need to eat too.

Daughter: Right. I like to eat. And we also need to save money for the waterpark and the zoo.
Simple Past, Dialogue 2

Description: Dallas and Anna meet at a wedding.

Dallas: Hi there!

Anna: Hello.

Dallas: So, what brought you to this beautiful wedding on this beautiful day?

Anna: I went to college with the bride. So, she invited me.

Dallas: Nice. I went to college with the groom. So, he invited me. He and I studied history together.

Anna: Cool. Did you find history to be an interesting subject?

Dallas: Absolutely. I was very good at history.

Anna: Impressive. What was your favorite topic?

Dallas: I really liked the history of England. For example, King Henry the Eighth. Did you know he had eight wives?

Anna: Well, he was indeed Henry the Eighth, but he only had six wives.

Dallas: Oh, of course. I knew that. Well, at least his daughter, Queen Elizabeth the First, only had one husband!

Anna: Well, in fact she didn’t marry anyone. So she didn’t have a husband at all.

Dallas: Oh, of course. But the important thing is that in her time England and the US had very good relations.

Anna: Queen Elizabeth the First died in 1603. There was no US.

Anna: No problem. I read quite a lot about Elizabeth the First, especially about her great victory at sea.

Dallas: Ah, yes! I remember that. She was a very good swimmer, wasn’t she?

Anna: I didn’t know that. I meant her great victory over the Spanish ships in 1588. From that point England grew and became a global empire.

Dallas: Oh. Wow! Did I mention that I didn't get very good grades?

Anna: Ha! No, you didn't mention that. I did get good grades, especially in the history of England. Then I became a professor, and I now teach history of England at the university.

Dallas: Wow, I certainly picked the wrong woman to impress with my knowledge of history!

Anna: Ha! No, you were okay. You impressed me with your creativity!
### Contractions Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Form</th>
<th>Contraction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am</td>
<td>I’m</td>
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<tr>
<td>He is</td>
<td>He’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>She is</td>
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<td>That is</td>
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<tr>
<td>You are</td>
<td>You’re</td>
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<tr>
<td>We are</td>
<td>We’re</td>
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<tr>
<td>They are</td>
<td>They’re</td>
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<tr>
<td>I will</td>
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<td>He will</td>
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<td>She will</td>
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<td>Should not</td>
<td>Shouldn’t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let us</td>
<td>Let’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Example Sentences

- I am very tall. = I’m very tall.
- She is a nice girl. = She’s a nice girl.
- That is true. = That’s true.
- You are a good friend. = You’re a good friend.
- He will come home. = He’ll come home.
- Please do not go now. = Please don’t go now.
- It does not rain. = It doesn’t rain.
- She did not like the cake. = She didn’t like the cake.
- He will not help us. = He won’t help us.
- They were not fast. = They weren’t fast.
- We cannot open the window. = We can’t open the window.
- So let us start. = So let’s start.