



LANGUAGE COURSE

Esperanto Grammar 1

8 Chapters

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Esperanto Grammar 1

Chapter 1 · Sounds and Spelling

abc Sounds and Spelling — Sonoj kaj literumado

Esperanto spelling has no surprises. Every letter has one sound, every sound has one letter, and the stress is always in the same place. This chapter teaches the alphabet, the six accented letters, how to type them, and the single stress rule. It ends with the sixteen rules of Esperanto grammar as a map of the eight chapters ahead. This is the one chapter with pronunciation guides in English spelling; from Chapter 2 on, the Esperanto speaks for itself.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

Say every letter, always the same way. Put the stress on the **next-to-last syllable** of every word, without exception. If you can do those two things, you can read any Esperanto word aloud correctly the first time.

The 28 letters

The alphabet is the Latin alphabet with four letters removed (*q, w, x, y*) and six letters with a hat, called a *circumflex* (*ĉ ĝ ĥ ĵ ŝ*) or a *breve* (*ŭ*) added. That gives 28 letters in all:

a b c ĉ d e f g ĝ h ĥ i j ĵ k l m n o p r s ŝ t u ŭ v z

Five vowels (*a e i o u*), and 23 consonants. The letter names add *-o* to the consonant, so you can spell a word aloud: **bo, co, ĉo, do, fo, go, ĝo, ho, ĥo, jo, ĵo, ko, lo, mo, no, po, ro, so, ŝo, to, ŭo, vo, zo** (check).

The vowels: five pure sounds

LETTER	SOUND	LIKE THE...	EXAMPLES
a	ah	<i>a</i> in <i>father</i> (not <i>cat</i> , not <i>cake</i>)	kafo coffee · akvo water
e	eh	<i>e</i> in <i>bed</i>	teo tea · ne no
i	ee	<i>ee</i> in <i>see</i> , but short	libro book · vi you
o	oh (pure)	<i>o</i> in <i>port</i> , or the Scots <i>no</i> (no glide)	domo house · bone well
u	oo	<i>oo</i> in <i>moon</i> , but short	nur only · ĉu (a question word)

The vowels stay pure: do not let them glide into a second sound, as English does in *no* or *say* (in most accents). Scottish speakers have an advantage here, since the Scots *o* in *no* and *e* in *say* are already close to pure.

The consonants that behave as you expect

b d f h k l m n p t v z sound as in English; **s** is always as in *sit* (never *z*), and **g** is always hard as in *go*. **r** is rolled or tapped, as in a Scottish accent. Double letters are pronounced double, as in Italian (check): **mallonga** (short) has a doubled *l*, held for twice as long.

The consonants that need care

LETTER	SOUND	LIKE THE...	EXAMPLES
c	ts	<i>ts</i> in <i>cats</i>	cent hundred · centro centre
ĉ	ch	<i>ch</i> in <i>church</i>	ĉevalo horse · ĉokolado chocolate
ĝ	j	<i>j</i> in <i>jam</i>	ĝardeno garden · ĝi it
ĥ	kh	<i>ch</i> in Scots <i>loch</i>	ĥaoso chaos · ĥoro choir
j	y	<i>y</i> in <i>yes</i>	jes yes · jaro year
ĵ	zh	<i>s</i> in <i>measure</i> , French <i>j</i>	ĵurnalo newspaper · ĵaŭdo Thursday
ŝ	sh	<i>sh</i> in <i>ship</i>	ŝipo ship · ŝuo shoe
ŭ	w	<i>w</i> in <i>now</i> (only after a vowel)	aŭto car · Eŭropo Europe

A Scottish head start

Two sounds that trouble many English learners are ordinary in Scotland. The Esperanto **ĥ** is the *ch* of *loch* (and of *Auchtermuchty*), and the Esperanto **r** is the rolled Scots *r*. If you say *Edinburgh* with a proper *-burgh*, you are already close to **Edinburgo** (check this spelling of the city's name).

Two letters, two sounds: the diphthongs

The letters *j* and *ŭ* also turn up after a vowel to form six two-sound combinations that fit in one syllable. They matter for the stress rule, so learn them as a set:

SPELLING	SOUNDS LIKE	EXAMPLES
aj	the <i>ai</i> of <i>aisle</i> (rhymes with <i>eye</i>)	kaj and · tajpi to type
ej	the <i>ay</i> of <i>day</i> (pure)	plej most · mejlo mile
oj	the <i>oy</i> of <i>boy</i>	libroj books · domoj houses
uj	oo-y	ĉiuj everyone
aŭ	the <i>ow</i> of <i>cow</i>	aŭto car · aŭ or
eŭ	eh-oo run together	Eŭropo Europe

Typing the accented letters

The six hatted letters are not on a standard British keyboard, and this is the practical hurdle for new learners. There are four ways round it:

1. **The x-system.** Type *x* after the letter: **cx gx hx jx sx ux** stand for **ĉ ĝ ĥ ĵ ŝ ŭ**. Since Esperanto has no *x* of its own, nothing is ambiguous. It is the most common system in e-mail and chat, and many Esperanto web tools convert it as you

type (check which).

2. **The h-system.** Type *h* after the letter (**ch gh hh jh sh**) and just *u* for *ŭ*. This is older, and less clear, because *ch*, *gh* and *sh* can also appear as separate letters in unadapted names.
3. **An Esperanto keyboard layout.** Operating systems offer a layout, or you can install a free one, that puts the six letters on a key or a key combination (check the current options for Windows, macOS and your phone).
4. **Copy and paste** from a character map or a web page, for a few words only.

In this course the hatted letters are always printed in full, so what you read here is the standard spelling. For your own notes, the x-system is the quickest to start with.

Stress: always the next-to-last syllable

A syllable has one vowel (a diphthong counts as one). To find the stress, count syllables from the end of the word and stop at the second one. That syllable is stressed, always.

WORD	SYLLABLES	STRESS	ENGLISH
kafo	ka-fo	KA-fo	coffee
libroj	li-broj	LI-broj	books (<i>oj</i> is one syllable)
Esperanto	es-pe-ran-to	es-pe-RAN-to	Esperanto
Skotlando	skot-lan-do	skot-LAN-do	Scotland
Edinburgo	e-din-bur-go	e-din-BUR-go	Edinburgh
ĝardeno	ĝar-de-no	ĝar-DE-no	garden
ĉielo	ĉi-e-lo	ĉi-E-lo	sky (<i>i</i> and <i>e</i> are two syllables)
Hungario	hun-ga-ri-o	hun-ga-RI-o	Hungary

Watch out: words in -io and -ia

In **Hungario**, **Germanio**, **Italio** and **Francio**, the *i* and the *o* are separate syllables, so the stress falls on the *i*: **hun-ga-RI-o**, **ger-ma-NI-o**. English speakers often stress these like *Hungary* or *Germany*. The rule does not bend for names. The plural -j does not shift the stress, because it joins the last vowel's syllable: **LI-bro** becomes **LI-broj**.

The sixteen rules: a map of the course

Dr L. L. Zamenhof, who published the first Esperanto book in 1887, summarised the grammar in sixteen rules, which later became part of the *Fundamento* (1905), the official foundation of the language (check dates). Wording and order vary between editions, so treat this as a summary. Rules 9 and 10 are this chapter. The rest are spread over the following chapters.

RULE	WHAT IT SAYS	CHAPTER
1	No indefinite article ("a"); one definite article, la , for everything	2

RULE	WHAT IT SAYS	CHAPTER
2	Nouns end in -o ; plural -j ; accusative -n	2
3	Adjectives end in -a , and agree with their noun; comparison with pli and plej	3
4	The numbers, and how they are built	7
5	The personal pronouns; possessives end in -a	4
6	Verbs do not change for person or number; the tense and mood endings; the participles	4, 7
7	Adverbs end in -e	3
8	Prepositions are followed by the plain (nominative) form	7
9	Every word is pronounced as it is written	1
10	Stress is on the next-to-last syllable	1
11	Compound words are formed by joining the parts	5
12	With another negative word, ne is dropped	8
13	To show direction, the accusative -n is used	2
14	Each preposition has one fixed meaning; je has no meaning of its own	7
15	Foreign words are used unchanged, apart from spelling	5, 8
16	The final <i>a</i> of la and the final <i>o</i> of a noun may be dropped (elision), mostly in poetry	8

Chapter 6, the correlative table, is not one of the sixteen rules as such, but it is the biggest single piece of the grammar, and it is covered in full.

In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud, slowly, with the stress on the next-to-last syllable. The meanings are given; the grammar comes later.

① Meeting

A:

Saluton! Kiel vi fartas?

Hello! How are you?

B:

Bone, dankon. Kaj vi?

Well, thanks. And you?

A:

Ankaŭ bone.

Also well.

② Where do you live?

A:

Kie vi loĝas?

Where do you live?

B:

Mi loĝas en Edinburgo, en Skotlando.

I live in Edinburgh, in Scotland.

A:

Ĉu vi parolas Esperanton?

Do you speak Esperanto?

B:

Jes, iomete!

Yes, a little!

Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

ITEM	RULE
Alphabet	28 letters; no <i>q w x y</i> ; six hatted letters <i>ĉ ĝ ĥ ĵ ŝ ŭ</i>
Vowels	a e i o u as in <i>father, bed, see, port, moon</i> ; never glided
Tricky consonants	c =ts · ĉ =ch · ĝ =j · ĥ =loch · j =y · ĵ =zh · ŝ =sh · ŭ =w
Diphthongs	aj ej oj uj aŭ eŭ : one syllable each
Stress	next-to-last syllable, always; plural -j does not move it
Typing	x-system: cx gx hx jx sx ux

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. How many letters does the Esperanto alphabet have, and which four English letters are missing?

▼ Show answer

28 letters. *q, w, x, y* are missing.

2. Write *ĉevalo* (horse) in the x-system.

▼ Show answer

cxevalo.

3. Which syllable is stressed in *Esperanto*?

▼ Show answer

The next-to-last: es-pe-**RAN**-to.

4. Which syllable is stressed in *Hungario*?

▼ Show answer

hun-ga-**RI**-o. The *i* and *o* are separate syllables, so the next-to-last is *ri*.

5. How is *cent* (hundred) pronounced at the start?

▼ Show answer

With *ts*, as in *cats*: "tsent". The letter *c* is never *k* or *s*.

6. Which Scottish sound is the Esperanto *ĥ*?

▼ Show answer

The *ch* of *loch*, as in **ĥoro** (choir).

7. What sounds does *aŭto* (car) begin with, and where is the stress?

▼ Show answer

It begins with *aŭ*, like *ow* in *cow*, one syllable: "OW-to". The stress is on **AŬ**, the next-to-last syllable.

8. Write *ŝipo* (ship) and *ĵurnalo* (newspaper) in the x-system.

▼ Show answer

sxipo and **jxurnalo**.

9. Does the plural *-j* change where the stress falls in *libro* → *libroj*?

▼ Show answer

No. *LI-bro* and *LI-broj* both stress the first syllable, because *oj* is one syllable.

10. How would you say the *j* in *jes* (yes) and the *ĝ* in *ĝardeno* (garden)? Are they the same?

▼ Show answer

No. **j** is like English *y* ("yes"), and **ĝ** is like English *j* ("jam"). This is the biggest trap for English speakers.

Words used in this chapter

saluton hello · **kiel** how · **vi** you · **fartas** is faring · **bone** well · **dankon** thanks · **kaj** and · **ankaŭ** also · **kie** where · **mi** I · **loĝas** live · **en** in · **ĉu** (question word) · **parolas** speak · **jes** yes · **iomete** a little · **kafo** coffee · **teo** tea · **libro** book · **domo** house · **akvo** water · **ĝardeno** garden · **aŭto** car · **ŝipo** ship · **jaro** year

Coming up in Chapter 2: Roots, Endings and Nouns. Why **libro** is a noun, **libroj** is more than one, and what the little -**n** does.

Esperanto Grammar 1

Chapter 2 · Roots, Endings and Nouns



Roots, Endings and Nouns — Radikoj, finaĵoj kaj substantivoj

An Esperanto word is built from a **root**, which carries the meaning, and an **ending**, which tells you the word's job. This chapter introduces that idea and then uses it for the noun: the ending **-o**, the plural **-j**, the one article **la**, and the accusative **-n** that marks the object and lets word order be free. Gender is nowhere in the system.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

A noun ends in **-o**. Add **-j** for more than one. Add **-n** for the object of the verb, or for movement towards a place. There is one article, **la** ("the"), and no word for "a". Nothing else changes.

Root + ending

Take the root **am-**, which means *love*. By itself it is not a word. Add an ending and it becomes one, and the ending says which kind:

ROOT	ENDING	WORD	JOB	ENGLISH
am-	-o	am o	noun	love (the thing)
am-	-a	am a	adjective	of love, loving
am-	-e	am e	adverb	lovingly
am-	-i	am i	verb (infinitive)	to love
am-	-as	am as	verb (present)	love, loves

The same trick works for almost every root. Chapters 3 and 4 cover the other endings; this chapter is about **-o**. Compare Hungarian, where a single stem takes many suffixes, but in Hungarian the suffix must match the vowels of the stem. In Esperanto the endings never change shape.

Nouns end in -o

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH	ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
libro	book	hundo	dog
domo	house	kato	cat
ĝardeno	garden	floro	flower
tablo	table	amiko	friend
teo	tea	kafo	coffee

Names of people and places are nouns too, and keep a capital letter. Many names take **-o**: **Filipo** (Philip), **Edinburgo**, **Skotlando** (check the spellings of names). Words for peoples and nationalities are written with a small letter: **skoto** (a Scot), **angla** (English), while the country keeps its capital: **Skotlando** (check).

The article: only la

Esperanto has **one** article, **la**, meaning *the*. It never changes for singular or plural, case or gender: **la libro**, **la libroj**, **la libron**. There is **no word for "a" or "an"**. A bare noun is simply "a book" or "books":

ESPERANTO	COULD MEAN
libro	a book · book
la libro	the book
libroj	books · some books
la libroj	the books

Watch out: la is used like English "the"

Do not use **la** before a person's name (**Filipo**, not **la Filipino**), and do not translate "a" with **unu**, which means *one* as a number. Compare French *le/la/les* and German *der/die/das*: Esperanto has one form where they have many, and Hungarian *a/az* where you chose by the next sound.

The plural: add -j

Add **-j** to the noun. The article stays the same.

SINGULAR	PLURAL	ENGLISH
libro	libroj	books
la hundo	la hundoj	the dogs
amiko	amikoj	friends
la ĝardeno	la ĝardenoj	the gardens

The **-oj** is one syllable, said "oy", and the stress does not move: **LI-bro**, **LI-broj** (Chapter 1).

The accusative: add -n

The subject of a sentence (the one that does the action) is in the plain form. The object (the one the action is done to) takes **-n**. Compare these two sentences, which have the same words and opposite meanings:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
La hundo vidas la katon n .	The dog sees the cat.
La kato vidas la hundon n .	The cat sees the dog.

The four forms of one noun:

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
Subject (nominative)	libro	libroj
Object (accusative)	libron	librojn

The order is always **-j before -n: librojn**. The article **la** does not take **-n**; only the noun (and, as you will see in Chapter 3, its adjectives) does.

Word order is free

Because **-n** marks the object, the three sentences below all mean the same thing:

ESPERANTO	MEANING
La hundo vidas la katon.	The dog sees the cat. (normal order)
La katon vidas la hundo.	The dog sees the cat. (the cat is stressed)
La hundo la katon vidas.	The dog sees the cat. (the verb comes last)

The normal order is subject, verb, object, as in English, and it is the safe choice while you learn. The other orders are for emphasis and are covered in Chapter 8. This is the same idea as the Hungarian accusative *-t (házat)*, the German accusative (*den Hund*) and the English pronouns *he* and *him*, but Esperanto marks every noun the same way.

The -n of direction

The same **-n** shows movement *towards* a place. Compare being in a place with moving into it:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi estas en la ĝardeno.	I am in the garden. (location)
Mi iras en la ĝardenon n .	I am going into the garden. (direction)
Mi iras Edinburgon n .	I am going to Edinburgh.

Watch out: -n is not "to a person"

The accusative marks the direct object and the direction of movement. The person who receives something is introduced with the preposition **al** (to), and the noun stays plain: **Mi donas la libron al la knabo**. (I give the book to the boy.) Another common error is to put **-n** after every preposition. Prepositions of place take the plain form, as in **en la ĝardeno**; only movement towards adds **-n**.

No gender

Esperanto nouns have no grammatical gender, so there are no masculine and feminine forms to learn, and no agreement. A noun is male or female only when it names a person or animal and the sex matters. In that case, **-in-** before the **-o** marks female:

BASIC WORD	WITH -IN-
patro father	patrino mother
frato brother	fratino sister
knabo boy	knabino girl
viro man	virino woman
kato cat	katino female cat

An honest note

In practice the basic words for people (**patro**, **frato**, **knabo**) are usually understood as male, and **-in-** is needed to make them female. Some Esperantists find this unfair, and have suggested alternatives. The standard language has not changed, but you may see new forms online; Chapter 4 mentions the best-known one (check).

In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud. Look for **-n**, **-j** and **la**.

① Pets

A:

Ĉu vi havas hundon?

Do you have a dog?

B:

Jes, mi havas hundon kaj katon.

Yes, I have a dog and a cat.

② What are you reading?

A:

Kion vi legas?

What are you reading?

B:

Mi legas libron. Kaj vi, kion vi trinkas?

I'm reading a book. And you, what are you drinking?

A:

Mi trinkas teon.

I'm drinking tea.

③ Where? and Where to?

A:

Kie vi estas?

Where are you?

B:

Mi estas en la ĝardeno. Kaj vi, kien vi iras?

I'm in the garden. And you, where are you going?

A:

Mi iras en la domon.

I'm going into the house.

Spot the pattern: **kion** ("what", as the object) ends in **-n** just like **libron**, and **kien** ("where to") takes the direction **-n** just like **domon**. Chapter 6 shows that the question words follow the same rules.

Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

ITEM	RULE	EXAMPLE
Noun	root + -o	libro
Article	la only; no "a"	la domo · domo
Plural	-j	domoj
Object	-n (after -j if plural)	domon · domojn
Direction	-n shows movement towards	en la domon
Person who receives	al + plain noun	al la knabo
Female	-in- before -o	patrino

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Make *hundo* plural.

▼ Show answer

hundoj.

2. Put *kato* into the accusative singular.

▼ Show answer

katon.

3. Put *libro* into the accusative plural.

▼ Show answer

librojn. The *-j* comes before the *-n*.

4. How do you say "a flower"?

▼ Show answer

floro. There is no word for "a".

5. Translate "The dog sees the cat" and then say who sees whom in *La hundon vidas la kato*.

▼ Show answer

La hundo vidas la katon. In the second sentence, *hundon* is the object, so the cat sees the dog.

6. What is the difference between *Mi estas en la domo* and *Mi iras en la domon*?

▼ Show answer

The first says where I am (location, no *-n*). The second says I am going into the house (direction, with *-n*).

7. Make the female forms of *knabo* and *patro*.

▼ Show answer

knabino (girl) and **patrino** (mother).

8. Correct the sentence: *Mi vidas la hundoj*.

▼ Show answer

Mi vidas la hundojn. The object needs *-n*, and the plural *-j* stays.

9. Correct the sentence: *Mi donas la libron la knabo*. (I give the book to the boy.)

▼ Show answer

Mi donas la libron al la knabo. The person who receives takes *al*, not *-n*.

10. Write "I am reading the books" in Esperanto.

▼ Show answer

Mi legas la librojn. (*legas* = reads; the verb is covered in Chapter 4.)

Words used in this chapter

libro book · **domo** house · **ĝardeno** garden · **tablo** table · **floro** flower · **hundo** dog · **kato** cat · **amiko** friend · **patro** father · **frato** brother · **knabo** boy · **viro** man · **teo** tea · **kafo** coffee · **la** the · **al** to · **en** in · **kie** where · **kien** where to · **kion** what (object) · **estas** is, am · **iras** goes · **vidas** sees · **havas** has · **legas** reads · **trinkas** drinks · **donas** gives

Coming up in Chapter 3: Adjectives, Adverbs and Comparison. How **bona libro** becomes **bonajn librojn**, and how to say "better", "best" and "as good as".

Esperanto Grammar 1

Chapter 3 · Adjectives, Adverbs and Comparison

🎨 Adjectives, Adverbs and Comparison — Adjektivoj, adverboj kaj komparo

Chapter 2 gave you the noun. This chapter adds the two words that describe: the adjective (ending **-a**), which copies the number and case of its noun, and the adverb (ending **-e**), which never changes. Comparison needs only four small words, and has no irregular forms.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

An adjective ends in **-a** and takes the same **-j** and **-n** as the noun it describes. An adverb ends in **-e** and never changes. Compare with **pli ... ol** (more than), **tiel ... kiel** (as ... as) and **plej** (most), for every adjective and adverb.

Adjectives: ending -a

The ending **-a** makes an adjective. It can come before or after the noun, but before is normal. An adjective takes **-j** if the noun is plural and **-n** if the noun is the object, so it copies the noun exactly:

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
Subject	bona libro	bonaj libroj
Object	bonan libron	bonajn librojn

Compare French *un bon livre, de bons livres* or German *ein gutes Buch, gute Bücher*, where the adjective also agrees but the endings change with gender, case and article. In Esperanto the same two endings do the whole job. Hungarian goes the other way: an adjective in front of its noun does not agree at all. A few useful adjectives to start with:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH	ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
bona	good	malbona	bad
granda	big	malgranda	small
nova	new	malnova	old (things)
longa	long	mallonga	short (length)
varma	warm, hot	malvarma	cold
bela	beautiful	facila	easy
ruĝa	red	blua	blue
verda	green	blanka	white

The prefix **mal-** turns a word into its opposite. It gets a full treatment in Chapter 5, and for now you can learn the pairs as they come. Colours are adjectives like any other, so **ruĝa** becomes **ruĝaj** and **ruĝajn**.

After esti the adjective stays plain

When the adjective follows **estas** (is), it agrees in number but does **not** take **-n**, because it describes the subject and is not an object:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
La libro estas bona.	The book is good.
La libroj estas bonaj.	The books are good.
Mi vidas bonan libron.	I see a good book. (the adjective is attached to the object)

Leaving out the noun

When the noun is understood, you can drop it and let the adjective stand alone, keeping its endings: **Mi preferas la ruĝan**. (I prefer the red one.) To say "a good person" with no noun at all, Esperanto builds a new word (**bonulo**, Chapter 5).

Adverbs: ending -e

The ending **-e** makes an adverb, which describes a verb, an adjective or another adverb. It never takes **-j** or **-n**.

ADJECTIVE	ADVERB	EXAMPLE
bona good	bone well	Mi parolas bone. I speak well.
rapida fast	rapide quickly	Li iras rapide. He goes quickly.
malrapida slow	malrapide slowly	Parolu malrapide. Speak slowly.
facila easy	facile easily	Mi legas facile. I read easily.
ofta frequent	ofte often	Ĝi estas ofte malvarma. It is often cold.

Parolu is the polite command form (ending **-u**), which Chapter 4 explains; for now, learn **Parolu malrapide** as a useful phrase.

Watch out: "I am well" is not "Mi estas bone"

After **esti** you want an adjective: **Mi estas bona** means *I am good* (as a person). To say how you are, use **fartas** with an adverb: **Mi fartas bone**. Choose the adjective for what something *is*, and the adverb for how an action is *done*.

Small adverbs that need no ending

A few common adverbs are just words with no **-e** to learn as they are, among them:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH	ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
tre	very	tro	too (much)
nun	now	tuj	at once
jam	already	ankoraŭ	still, yet
nur	only	ankaŭ	also
hodiaŭ	today	morgaŭ	tomorrow
hieraŭ	yesterday	iom	a little, somewhat

Comparison

Esperanto compares every adjective and every adverb with the same small words, so there is no *good*, *better*, *best* to learn:

MEANING	PATTERN	EXAMPLE
more ... than	pli + adjective + ol	Londono estas pli granda ol Edinburgo. London is bigger than Edinburgh.
less ... than	malpli + adjective + ol	Edinburgo estas malpli granda ol Londono. Edinburgh is less big than London.
as ... as	tiel + adjective + kiel	La kafo estas tiel varma kiel la teo. The coffee is as hot as the tea.
the most	la plej + adjective	Ĝi estas la plej bona libro. It is the best book.
the least	la malplej + adjective	la malplej facila the least easy
comparing actions	pli + adverb + ol	Li parolas pli rapide ol mi. He speaks faster than I do.
much more	multe pli	multe pli granda much bigger

Here **ol** means *than*, **kiel** means *as* after **tiel**, and **plej** is the "most" word, which almost always has **la** in front. The word after **ol** or **kiel** takes the same case as the thing it is compared with, so if you compare two objects both take **-n**: **Mi vidas pli grandan hundon ol katon.** (I see a bigger dog than a cat.)

No irregular comparisons

English has *good*, *better*, *best* and *bad*, *worse*, *worst*. Esperanto has **bona**, **pli bona**, **plej bona** and **malbona**, **pli malbona**, **plej malbona**: the same pattern as every other word. Hungarian uses a suffix (*-bb*); Esperanto uses words, like English *more* and *most*, but for every adjective, long or short.

In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud, watching the endings on the adjectives.

① A new book

② Two cities

A:

Ĉu la nova libro estas bona?

Is the new book good?

B:

Jes, ĝi estas tre bona, pli bona ol la malnova.

Yes, it's very good, better than the old one.

A:

Ĉu Budapeŝto estas pli granda ol Edinburgo?

Is Budapest bigger than Edinburgh?

B:

Jes, ĝi estas multe pli granda. Sed Edinburgo estas tre bela.

Yes, it's much bigger. But Edinburgh is very beautiful.

③ Speaking slowly

A:

Mi ankoraŭ ne parolas bone. Parolu malrapide, bonvolu.

I still don't speak well. Speak slowly, please.

B:

Jes, jes. Via Esperanto estas jam tre bona!

Yes, yes. Your Esperanto is already very good!

Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

ITEM	RULE	EXAMPLE
Adjective	root + -a ; copies -j and -n	bonajn librojn
After esti	agrees in number, no -n	La libroj estas bonaj.
Adverb	root + -e ; never changes	bone
More / less	pli / malpli ... ol	pli granda ol
As ... as	tiel ... kiel	tiel varma kiel
Most	la plej ...	la plej bona

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Make *bona libro* plural.

▼ Show answer

bonaj libroj.

2. Put *bona libro* into the accusative singular, and then plural.

▼ Show answer

bonan libron, bonajn librojn.

3. Choose: *La domo estas granda / grandan.*

▼ Show answer

granda. After *estas* the adjective does not take *-n*.

4. Translate "I see a big dog."

▼ Show answer

Mi vidas grandan hundon. Both words are objects, so both take *-n*.

5. Make adverbs from *rapida* (fast) and *malrapida* (slow).

▼ Show answer

rapide and malrapide.

6. Translate "Edinburgh is smaller than London."

▼ Show answer

Edinburgo estas pli malgranda ol Londono. (or **malpli granda**, "less big")

7. Translate "The coffee is as hot as the tea."

▼ Show answer

La kafo estas tiel varma kiel la teo.

8. Say "the best book" and "the worst book".

▼ Show answer

la plej bona libro and la plej malbona libro.

9. Correct the sentence: *Mi estas bone.* (meaning "I am well")

▼ Show answer

Mi fartas bone. After *esti* you need an adjective (*Mi estas bona* = I am good), so to say how you are, use *fartas* with an adverb.

10. Say "I prefer the red one" when talking about a book (*libro*).

▼ Show answer

Mi preferas la ruĝan. The noun is understood, and the adjective keeps the *-n* of the object.

Words used in this chapter

bona good · **granda** big · **nova** new · **longa** long · **varma** warm · **bela** beautiful · **facila** easy · **ruĝa** red · **blua** blue · **verda** green · **blanka** white · **rapida** fast · **ofta** frequent · **mal-** (opposite) · **tre** very · **tro** too · **nun** now · **tuj** at once · **jam** already · **ankoraŭ** still · **nur** only · **ankaŭ** also · **hodiaŭ** today · **morgaŭ** tomorrow · **hieraŭ** yesterday · **iom** a little · **multe** much · **pli** more · **plej** most · **ol** than · **tiel** so, as · **kiel** as, how · **preferas** prefers · **bonvolu** please

Coming up in Chapter 4: Pronouns and Verbs. One ending per tense, no endings for person, and why **mi estas**, **vi estas** and **ili estas** all use the same verb.

 Pronouns and Verbs — Pronomoj kaj verboj

This is the shortest verb system you will ever meet. An Esperanto verb has **one form for every person and number**, and six endings in all. The pronouns tell you who is acting. The endings tell you when (or whether, or how). Nothing in the verb changes to agree with the subject, and nothing is irregular, including the verb to be.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

Pick the pronoun. Pick the root. Add one ending: **-i** (to ...), **-as** (present), **-is** (past), **-os** (future), **-us** (would), **-u** (command or wish). The same verb serves for I, you, he, she, it, we and they.

The pronouns

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH	OBJECT (-N)	POSSESSIVE (-A)
mi	I	min	mia my
vi	you (one or many)	vin	via your
li	he	lin	lia his
ŝi	she	ŝin	ŝia her
ĝi	it (a thing or animal)	ĝin	ĝia its
ni	we	nin	nia our
ili	they	ilin	ilia their
oni	one, people, they (in general)	—	onia (rare)
si	himself, herself, itself, themselves	sin	sia own

A possessive is an adjective, so it agrees with its noun: **mia libro**, **miaj libroj**, **mian libron**, **miajn librojn**. The object forms add **-n** as in Chapter 2.

Watch out: **vi**, and a newer pronoun

vi is both singular and plural, and there is no polite/familiar split (an old singular **ci** exists in dictionaries, but it is hardly ever used; check). Also, as Chapter 2 promised, there is a proposal for a pronoun that does not say "he" or "she": **ri**. It is not in the official core, but it is widely used online and in some books (check).

si and oni

si refers back to the subject of the same clause, in the third person only, and is never the subject itself. It separates "his own" from "somebody else's":

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Li vidas sin .	He sees himself.
Li vidas lin .	He sees him (another man).
Li amas sian patrinon.	He loves his own mother.
Li amas lian patrinon.	He loves his (another man's) mother.

oni means "one", "people" or the vague "they" in *they say*: **Oni parolas Esperanton en multaj landoj.** (Esperanto is spoken in many countries.) It is the Esperanto way to avoid a passive in many sentences.

The verb: one ending per tense

ENDING	USE	LABORI (TO WORK)	ENGLISH
-i	infinitive	labor i	to work
-as	present	labor as	work, works, am working
-is	past	labor is	worked, was working
-os	future	labor os	will work
-us	conditional	labor us	would work
-u	command, wish	labor u	work! let ... work

Those six endings are the whole system. Here it is with every person, so you can see that the verb never changes:

PRONOUN	PRESENT	PAST	FUTURE
mi	mi laboras	mi laboris	mi laboros
vi	vi laboras	vi laboris	vi laboros
li / ŝi / ĝi	li laboras	ŝi laboris	ĝi laboros
ni	ni laboras	ni laboris	ni laboros
ili	ili laboras	ili laboris	ili laboros

Compare English (*I work, she works, I am working, I do work*), French (*je travaille, nous travaillons*), German (*ich arbeite, er arbeitet*) and Hungarian (a different ending for every person). Esperanto uses one form for all of them, and **laboras** is both "works" and "is working". There is no "do" in questions and no "will" or "would" as a separate word.

The stress stays on the root vowel in every form (Chapter 1): **la-BO-ri, la-BO-ras, la-BO-ris, la-BO-ros**.

esti, the verb "to be"

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi estas Filipo.	I am Philip.
Vi estis hieraŭ en la domo.	You were in the house yesterday.
Ili estos amikoj.	They will be friends.
Estus bone.	It would be good.

After **esti**, a noun or adjective stays plain, with no **-n** (Chapter 3): **Li estas amiko**, not *Li estas amikon*.

The -u form: commands and wishes

-u gives a command (**Venu!** Come!), a polite request with **bonvolu** (**Bonvolu sidi.** Please sit.) and "let's" (**Ni iru!** Let us go!). In Chapter 8 you will see it in wishes inside a longer sentence.

The conditional -us

-us marks "would" and appears with **se** (if): **Se mi havus tempon, mi venus.** (If I had time, I would come.) The same **-us** is used on both halves of the sentence.

Negation, questions and helper verbs

NEED	HOW	EXAMPLE
Not	ne before the verb (or the word it negates)	Mi ne parolas rapide. I don't speak quickly.
Yes/no question	Ĉu at the start	Ĉu vi parolas Esperanton? Do you speak Esperanto?
Answer	jes / ne	Jes, mi parolas. Yes, I do.
Tag question	ĉu ne?	Vi laboras, ĉu ne? You work, don't you?
Can, want, must	povas, volas, devas + infinitive	Mi povas iri. I can go.

The helper verbs are ordinary verbs followed by the infinitive in **-i**, as in English *I can go*: **Mi volas trinki teon.** (I want to drink tea.) Another small word for questions is **ĉu** inside a sentence, meaning "whether": **Mi ne scias, ĉu li venos.** (I don't know whether he will come.)

Watch out: do not translate "do" and "will"

There is no Esperanto word for the "do" in *Do you speak?* or *I don't speak*, and none for the "will" in *I will go*. Say **Ĉu vi parolas?**, **Mi ne parolas** and **Mi iros**. The verb ending carries the time, and **ĉu** and **ne** carry the question and the negation.

In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud. Notice that the verb stays the same whoever is speaking.

① Introductions

A:

Saluton, mi estas Filipino. Ĉu vi estas nova ĉi tie?
Hello, I'm Philip. Are you new here?

B:

Jes, mi estas nova. Ni estas amikoj, ĉu ne?
Yes, I'm new. We're friends, aren't we?

② Past, present and future

A:

Kion vi faris hieraŭ?
What did you do yesterday?

B:

Mi laboris. Hodiaŭ mi ripozas, kaj morgaŭ mi vizitos mian fraton.
I worked. Today I'm resting, and tomorrow I'll visit my brother.

A:

Mi irus kun vi, se mi havus tempon.
I would go with you, if I had time.

③ Work

A:

Kion vi faras?
What do you do?

B:

Mi helpas homojn kun iliaj komputiloj.
I help people with their computers.

A:

Ĉu vi ŝatas vian laboron?
Do you like your job?

B:

Jes, mi tre ŝatas ĝin.
Yes, I like it a lot.

Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

ITEM	RULE	EXAMPLE
Pronouns	mi vi li ŝi ĝi ni ili oni si	Mi vidas vin.
Object	add -n	min, vin, lin
Possessive	add -a (agrees with its noun)	mia, miaj, mian
Verb endings	-i -as -is -os -us -u	labori, laboras, laboris, laboros, laborus, laboru
Agreement	none	mi estas · ili estas
Not / question	ne · ĉu	Ĉu vi ne parolas?

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Give the past, present and future of *paroli* (to speak) for *mi*.

▼ Show answer

mi parolis, mi parolas, mi parolos.

2. How do you say "we are" and "they are"?

▼ Show answer

ni estas and ili estas. The verb is the same.

3. Translate "I saw you."

▼ Show answer

Mi vidis vin.

4. Translate "I see my books."

▼ Show answer

Mi vidas miajn librojn. The possessive copies the *-j* and *-n* of its noun.

5. What is the difference between *Li vidas sin* and *Li vidas lin*?

▼ Show answer

The first: he sees himself. The second: he sees another man. *sin* refers back to the subject.

6. Translate "I would drink tea."

▼ Show answer

Mi trinkus teon.

7. Say "Come!" and "Let's go!"

▼ Show answer

Venu! and Ni iru!

8. Translate "Do you speak Esperanto?" and "I don't speak quickly."

▼ Show answer

Ĉu vi parolas Esperanton? and Mi ne parolas rapide.

9. Correct the sentence: *Mi estas Filipon*.

▼ Show answer

Mi estas Filipino. After *esti* the noun stays plain.

10. Translate "One drinks tea here" using *oni*.

▼ Show answer

Oni trinkas teon ĉi tie.

Words used in this chapter

mi vi li ŝi ĝi ni ili oni si (pronouns) · **labori** work · **paroli** speak · **esti** be · **iri** go · **veni** come · **havi** have · **vidi** see · **ami** love · **trinki** drink · **fari** do, make · **helpi** help · **ŝati** like · **ripozi** rest · **viziti** visit · **sidi** sit · **scii** know · **povi** can · **voli** want · **devi** must · **homo** person · **komputilo** computer · **laboro** job, work · **tempo** time · **lando** country · **multaj** many · **se** if · **ĉu** whether · **ne** not · **kun** with · **ĉi tie** here

Coming up in Chapter 5: Word-Building. How one root becomes a dozen words with prefixes and suffixes: **mal-**, **-ul-**, **-ist-**, **-ej-** and more.

Esperanto Grammar 1

Chapter 5 · Word-Building

🔧 Word-Building — Vortfarado

This is where Esperanto saves you the most work. A few dozen small prefixes and suffixes can be attached to any root, and each keeps its meaning wherever it goes. Learn one root and you get a family of words for free. This chapter lists the most useful affixes, shows how compound words are joined, and ends with a method for reading a word you have never seen.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

A word is a **root** with optional **prefixes** before it and **suffixes** after it, then a grammatical ending (**-o**, **-a**, **-e**, **-i**, **-as** and so on). Every affix has one fixed meaning, so you can build and take apart words without a dictionary. In a compound, the main word comes last.

Prefixes

PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE	ENGLISH
mal-	the opposite	mal bona · mal amiko	bad · enemy
re-	again, back	re legi · re veni	to re-read · to come back
ek-	the start of an action, a sudden action	ek kanti · ek dormi	to burst into song · to fall asleep
for-	away	for iri	to go away
dis-	apart, in all directions	dis doni	to hand out
mis-	wrongly	mis kompreni	to misunderstand
ge-	both sexes together	ge patroj · ge fratoj	parents · brothers and sisters
bo-	related by marriage	bo patro	father-in-law
eks-	former	eks edzo	ex-husband
pra-	remote in time or relation	pra avo	great-grandparent

Suffixes

People, places and things

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE	ENGLISH
-ul-	a person with the quality	bon ul o · riĉ ul o	a good person · a rich person
-in-	female	patr in o	mother

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE	ENGLISH
-ist-	a person with the profession	instru isto · kurac isto	teacher · doctor
-an-	member, inhabitant	eŭropano · edinburgano	a European · a resident of Edinburgh
-id-	young offspring	hund ido · kat ido	puppy · kitten
-ej-	place for	lernejo · trinkejo	school · bar, pub
-ar-	a collection, group	arbaro · vortaro	forest · dictionary
-il-	tool, instrument	skribilo · komputilo	pen · computer
-uj-	container	monujo · sukerujo	purse · sugar bowl

Size, quality and feeling

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE	ENGLISH
-et-	small, slight	dometo · ridet i	little house · to smile
-eg-	big, strong	domego · ventego	mansion · gale
-ec-	the quality itself	boneco · amikeco	goodness · friendship
-ind-	worthy of	ŝatinda · vizitinda	likeable · worth visiting
-ebl-	can be done	legebla · manĝebla	legible · edible
-ad-	continued or repeated action	kantado · parolad i	singing · to go on talking
-aĉ-	bad, contemptible	domaĉo	hovel

Pet names with -ĉj- and -nj-

For affectionate short names, cut the name short and add -ĉj- (male) or -nj- (female): **Paĉjo** (Dad), **Panjo** (Mum), and for a name like Filipo, **Filĉjo** (check). They are as informal as English *Dad* or *Phil*.

Transitive and intransitive: -ig- and -iĝ-

Two suffixes make verbs. **-ig-** means *make, cause to be* and always takes an object. **-iĝ-** means *become* and takes none:

ROOT	-IG- (MAKE ...)	-IĜ- (BECOME ...)
bon-	bon igi to improve (make good)	boni ĝi to get better
ruĝ-	ruĝ igi to redden (something)	ruĝi ĝi to go red
fermi	Mi fermas la pordon. I close the door.	La pordo fermi ĝas . The door closes (by itself).
pur-	pur igi to clean	pur iĝi to become clean

This pair removes a whole family of English verbs that differ only in whether they take an object, such as *I break the cup* and *the cup breaks*. It is the same kind of switch as the Hungarian causative and passive suffixes.

Compound words

Two roots can be joined directly, and the **last** one is the main word. The grammatical ending goes at the very end:

PARTS	COMPOUND	ENGLISH
fero iron + vojo road	fervojo	railway
flugi fly + haveno harbour	flughaveno	airport
vorto word + libro book	vortlibro	dictionary (also vortaro)
bona good + gusto taste	bongusta	tasty
sun- sun + brili shine	sunbrili	to shine (of the sun)

Compare German (*Eisenbahn, Flughafen, Wörterbuch*), which builds words the same way; English prefers separate words and Latin loans. Most Esperanto roots come from Romance and Germanic languages, so many compounds are easy to recognise (check).

Reading an unknown word

When you meet a word you do not know, take it apart from the right: strip the grammatical ending, then the suffixes, then the prefix, and read the root. Take **malsanulejo**:

PIECE	MEANING
-o	noun
-ej-	a place for
-ul-	people who are ...
san-	healthy
mal-	the opposite

Put it back together: *a place for unhealthy people*, which is a hospital. Whether the result is a real word is a separate question, and the dictionary is the final judge, but for common roots the logic nearly always works.

Watch out: build, but do not invent too freely

Affixes are productive, but some combinations have settled into a particular meaning, and others sound odd. If you are not sure that a combination is used, look it up or use a simpler wording. For example, **libraro** is a collection of books, and the usual word for a library is **biblioteko** (check). Likewise **mal-** follows the rule (**malkara**, not dear, means cheap), but check whether a ready-made word exists before you build one.

In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud, then take the longer words apart.

① At work

A:

Kion vi faras?

What do you do?

B:

Mi estas kuracisto en malsanulejo. Kaj vi?

I'm a doctor in a hospital. And you?

A:

Mi estas instruisto en lernejo.

I'm a teacher in a school.

② Why are you smiling?

A:

Kial vi ridetas?

Why are you smiling?

B:

Ĉar la kuko estas bongusta!

Because the cake is tasty!

③ What does it mean?

A:

Kion signifas "librejo"?

What does "librejo" mean?

B:

Libro plus -ejo: loko por libroj. Ĝi estas vendejo de libroj.

Book plus -ejo: a place for books. It's a shop for books.

Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

KIND	AFFIXES
Prefixes	mal- re- ek- for- dis- mis- ge- bo- eks- pra-
People	-ul- -in- -ist- -an- -id-
Places, groups, tools	-ej- -ar- -il- -uj-
Size, quality	-et- -eg- -ec- -ind- -ebl- -ad- -aĉ-
Make / become	-ig- / -iĝ-
Compounds	main word last, ending at the end

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Make the opposite of *granda*.

▼ Show answer

malgranda.

2. How do you say "to read again"?

▼ Show answer

relegi.

3. Make "parents" and "father-in-law" from *patro*.

▼ Show answer

gepatroj and bopatro.

4. What is a "place for learning" (*lerni*)?

▼ Show answer

lernejo, a school.

5. Make "friendship" from *amiko*.

▼ Show answer

amikeco.

6. Take apart *fervojo* and say what it means.

▼ Show answer

fer- (iron) + **voj-** (road) + **-o:** a railway.

7. Choose *-ig-* or *-iĝ-*: *La pordo ferm___as.* (The door closes by itself.)

▼ Show answer

La pordo fermiĝas. *-iĝ-* means become, with no object.

8. Say "a resident of Edinburgh" and "a little house".

▼ Show answer

edinburgano and dometo.

9. What does *vizitinda* mean, and how is it built?

▼ Show answer

Worth visiting: **vizit-** + **-ind-** (worthy of) + **-a** (adjective).

10. Which word is "someone who teaches": *instruisto* or *instruejo*?

▼ Show answer

instruisto, with *-ist-* for the person. *instruejo* would be a place for teaching.

Words used in this chapter

mal- opposite · **re-** again · **ek-** start of · **for-** away · **ge-** both sexes · **-ul-** person · **-ist-** profession · **-ej-** place · **-ar-** group · **-et-** small · **-eg-** big · **-ec-** quality · **-ig-** make · **-iĝ-** become · **-ebl-** can be · **-ind-** worthy · **-il-** tool · **sana** healthy · **lerni** learn · **instrui** teach · **kuraci** treat · **legi** read · **kanti** sing · **fermi** close · **pordo** door · **vojo** road · **fero** iron · **vorto** word · **kuko** cake · **kial** why · **ĉar** because · **signifi** mean · **vendi** sell · **loko** place · **por** for

Coming up in Chapter 6: The Correlatives. Forty-five little words built from a grid: **kio**, **tio**, **io**, **ĉio**, **nenio**, and all their relatives.

Esperanto Grammar 1

The Correlatives — La korelativoj

Who, what, which, where, when, how, why, whose, how much: and their answers, that one, there, then, everywhere, never. English has dozens of these words with no pattern. Esperanto has 45, and all of them come from one grid: five beginnings times nine endings. Learn the grid and you have learnt all of them at once.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

The beginning says **what kind of word**: **ki-** asks, **ti-** points, **i-** means "some", **ĉi-** means "every", **neni-** means "no".

The ending says **what it is about**: a person or thing (**-u**), a thing (**-o**), a kind (**-a**), a place (**-e**), a time (**-am**), a manner (**-el**), a reason (**-al**), a possessor (**-es**), an amount (**-om**).

The grid

ENDING → BEGINNING ↓	-U ONE (OF THEM)	-O THING	-A KIND	-E PLACE	-AM TIME	-EL MANNER	-AL REASON	-ES OF WHOM	-OM AMOUNT
ki- question, relative	kiu who, which	kio what	kia what kind of	kie where	kiam when	kiel how	kial why	kies whose	kiom how much
ti- that	tiu that one	tio that	tia such	tie there	tiam then	tiel so, thus	tial therefore	ties that one's	tiom that much
i- some	iu someone	io something	ia some kind of	ie somewhere	iam sometime	iel somehow	ial for some reason	ies someone's	iom a little
ĉi- every	ĉiu everyone, each	ĉio everything	ĉia every kind of	ĉie everywhere	ĉiam always	ĉiel in every way	ĉial for every reason	ĉies everyone's	ĉiom all of it
neni- no	neniu no one	nenio nothing	nenia no kind of	nenie nowhere	neniam never	neniel in no way	nenial for no reason	nenies no one's	neniom none, not at all

Forty-five words, but only five beginnings and nine endings to remember. The table is regular, and the endings also hold across the row: every word ending in **-e** is a place, every word ending in **-am** is a time. Some of the less-used forms (**tial**, **ial**, **ĉial**, **nenial**, **ies**, **ĉies**, **neniel**) are rare in everyday speech, but they exist, and you can use them with confidence (check how common each is).

English has a half-grid, Hungarian has most of one

English shows the pattern for place and time: *where, there, somewhere, everywhere, nowhere* and *when, then, sometime, always, never*. Hungarian has a grid too, built from *ki, mi, hol, mikor* with *vala-* (some), *mind-* (every) and *sen-* (no): *valaki, mindenki, senki* (check). Esperanto simply makes every cell regular.

Agreement: -j and -n

The **-u** and **-a** forms behave like adjectives and take **-j** and **-n**. The **-o** forms behave like nouns and take **-n** as objects. The **-e** forms take **-n** to show direction. The rest never change.

FORM	EXAMPLES
-u	tiu libro that book · tiuj libroj those books · tiun libron · tiujn librojn
-a	kia libro what kind of book · kian libron
-o	Kio estas tio? What is that? · Kion vi legas? What are you reading?
-e	Kie vi estas? Where are you? · Kien vi iras? Where are you going? · tie / tien
others	kiam, kiel, kial, kies, kiom : no endings

Using the table

Questions (ki-)

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Kiu estas tiu viro?	Who is that man?
Kiun libron vi legas?	Which book are you reading?
Kian libron vi legas?	What kind of book are you reading?
Kiam vi venos?	When will you come?
Kiel vi fartas?	How are you?
Kial vi ridetas?	Why are you smiling?
Kies libro estas ĉi tio?	Whose book is this?
Kiom kostas la kafo?	How much does the coffee cost?

Kiu picks one from a group ("which one"), and **kio** asks about a thing in general ("what"). **Kia** asks about quality ("what kind of"). For quantities, **kiom** is followed by **da** and a noun: **kiom da homoj** (how many people).

Pointing (ti-) and this/that

The **ti-** words mean *that*. For *this*, put **ĉi** next to it: **ĉi tiu** or **tiu ĉi** (this one), **ĉi tio** (this), **ĉi tie** (here). So **tie** is there and **ĉi tie** is here. This **ĉi** is a separate word, not the prefix **ĉi-** of **ĉiu**.

Some, every, none

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Iu venis hieraŭ.	Someone came yesterday.
Mi havas iom da tempo.	I have a little time.
Ĉiu homo havas amikon.	Every person has a friend.
Mi ĉiam trinkas teon.	I always drink tea.
Mi neniam trinkas vinon.	I never drink wine.
Neniu estas hejme.	Nobody is at home.

Note that **neniam** and **neniu** are already negative, so there is no extra **ne**: **Mi neniam trinkas**, not *Mi ne neniam trinkas*. Chapter 8 covers this rule.

Relative clauses: kiu and kio

A relative clause describes a noun, as in English *the man who lives there*. In Esperanto the linking word is **kiu** (who, which, that), and there is always a comma before it. **Kiu** takes **-j** if what it stands for is plural and **-n** if it is the object of the clause it introduces:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
La viro, kiu loĝas tie, estas mia amiko.	The man who lives there is my friend.
La libro, kiun mi legas, estas bona.	The book that I am reading is good.
La libroj, kiujn mi legas, estas bonaj.	The books that I am reading are good.
Mi komprenas ĉion, kion vi diras.	I understand everything that you say.

Use **kio** instead of **kiu** after **tio**, **ĉio**, **nenio** and other words that stand for "thing": **tio, kion mi diris** (what I said, literally "that which I said").

Watch out: the case of kiu comes from its own clause

In *La libro, kiun mi legas*, **kiun** has **-n** because it is the object of **legas** inside the relative clause, even though the book is the subject of the main clause. Ask yourself what *kiu* is doing in its own clause. Compare this with English, where *who/whom/that* and often nothing at all can be used.



In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud and pick out the correlatives.

① Finding the station

A:

Kie estas la stacidomo?
Where is the station?

B:

Tie, post la ponto.
There, beyond the bridge.

A:

Kiom da tempo mi bezonas?
How much time do I need?

B:

Nur iom da tempo.
Only a little time.

② A very full book

A:

Kio estas ĉi tio?
What is this?

B:

Ĝi estas Esperanto-libro. Ĝi enhavas ĉion, kion vi bezonas.
It's an Esperanto book. It contains everything you need.

A:

Mi neniam vidis tiom da vortoj!
I've never seen so many words!

③ When?

A:

Kiam vi venos?
When will you come?

B:

Mi venos morgaŭ, sed mi ofte venas malfrue.
I'll come tomorrow, but I often come late.

A:

Ĉu ĉiam malfrue?
Always late?

B:

Ne ĉiam. Iam mi venas frue.
Not always. Sometimes I come early.



Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

BEGINNING	MEANING	ENDING	MEANING
ki-	question, relative	-u	one of a group (takes -j -n)
ti-	that, pointing	-o	a thing (takes -n)
i-	some	-a	a kind (takes -j -n)
ĉi-	every	-e	place (-n for direction)
neni-	no	-am -el -al -es -om	time, manner, reason, possessor, amount

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Make the words for "there", "somewhere", "everywhere" and "nowhere".

▼ Show answer

tie, ie, ĉie, nenie.

2. Say "everyone", "everything" and "no one".

▼ Show answer

ĉiu, ĉio, neniu.

3. Say "always" and "never", and put "never" in *I never come*.

▼ Show answer

ĉiam, neniam. Mi neniam venas. (No extra *ne*.)

4. Ask "When do you come?" and "Where are you going?"

▼ Show answer

Kiam vi venas? and Kien vi iras? (*kien* because you are asking about direction).

5. Translate "Which book are you reading?" and "What kind of book are you reading?"

▼ Show answer

Kiun libron vi legas? and Kian libron vi legas?

6. How do you say "this one" and "that one", and "here" and "there"?

▼ Show answer

ĉi tiu (or tiu ĉi) and tiu; ĉi tie and tie.

7. Translate "The man who lives there is my friend."

▼ Show answer

La viro, kiu loĝas tie, estas mia amiko.

8. Translate "The book that I am reading is good." Why *kiun*?

▼ Show answer

La libro, kiun mi legas, estas bona. *kiun* has *-n* because it is the object of *legas* in its own clause.

9. Translate "I understand everything that you say."

▼ Show answer

Mi komprenas ĉion, kion vi diras. After *ĉio* use *kio* (here as the object, *kion*).

10. Ask "Why?", "Whose book is this?" and "How much does it cost?"

▼ Show answer

Kial?, **Kies libro estas ĉi tio?** and **Kiom ĝi kostas?**

Words used in this chapter

The 45 correlatives (see the grid) · **ĉi** this, here · **da** of (after a quantity) · **kosti** cost · **bezoni** need · **enhavi** contain · **kompreni** understand · **diri** say · **stacidomo** station · **ponto** bridge · **post** after, behind · **frue** early · **malfrue** late · **ofte** often · **hejme** at home · **vino** wine · **sed** but

Coming up in Chapter 7: Participles, Prepositions and Numbers. The six participles, every preposition with its one meaning, and how to count, tell the time and give the date.

Participles, Prepositions and Numbers — Participoj, prepozicioj kaj nombroj

Three sets of small, regular tools finish the toolkit. The participles turn a verb into a describing word and give you the passive. The prepositions are a short list, each with exactly one meaning. The numbers are built from twelve words, and with them you can give dates and tell the time.

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

A participle is a verb root + **-ant-**, **-int-**, **-ont-** (active: does the action) or **-at-**, **-it-**, **-ot-** (passive: receives it), then a normal ending (**-a**, **-e**, **-o**). Each preposition has one fixed meaning, and the plain noun follows. Numbers are written by putting the words together, like **tricent sesdek kvin** (365).

Participles

	ACTIVE (DOES IT)	PASSIVE (HAS IT DONE TO)
Present (is ...ing / is being ...)	leganta reading	legata being read
Past (... ed / has been ...)	leginta having read	legita read, been read
Future (about to ...)	legonta about to read	legota going to be read

The tense (-n-, -i-, -o-) says when, and the **-t-** vs **no -t-** says whether the thing *does* the action or *has it done to it*. With the ending **-a** a participle is an adjective, with **-e** an adverb and with **-o** a noun:

ENDING	EXAMPLE	ENGLISH
adjective	la dormanta viro · la fermita pordo	the sleeping man · the closed door
adjective	la venonta semajno · la pasinta jaro	next week (the coming week) · last year (the past year)
adverb	Li venis ridante.	He came laughing.
noun (a person)	lernanto	a pupil, one who is learning

Watch out: -ant- or -at-? -int- or -it-?

Ask who does the action. **La skribinta viro** is the man *who wrote* (he did it). **La skribita letero** is the letter *that was written* (it received it). If the thing you describe performs the action, use **-nt-**; if the action is done to it, use **-t-**.

Compound tenses and the passive

With a form of **esti** and a participle you can be more exact than the simple tenses allow:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi estas skribanta.	I am (in the middle of) writing.
Mi estis veninta.	I had come.
Mi estos veninta.	I will have come.
La libro estas legata de multaj.	The book is read by many (people).
La pordo estas fermita.	The door is (has been) closed.
La domo estis konstruita en la jaro 1900.	The house was built in 1900.

The simple tenses (**mi skribas**, **mi venis**, **mi venos**) are enough for everyday use, and the compound forms are a way to add precision. In the passive, the person or thing that does the action is introduced with **de** (by). English uses *-ing* more often than Esperanto does, so do not translate every *I am reading* as **Mi estas leganta**: **Mi legas** is the normal form.

Prepositions

Esperanto has a short list of prepositions, and each one keeps a single meaning. A noun after a preposition is plain, with no **-n**, apart from the direction rule you met in Chapter 2.

GROUP	PREPOSITION	MEANING
Place	en · el	in · out of
Place	sur · sub · super	on · under · above
Place	antaŭ · post	in front of, before · behind, after
Place	apud · inter · ĉe · ĉirkaŭ	beside · between, among · at · around
Movement	al · de · tra · trans · preter · kontraŭ	to · from, of, by · through · across · past · against
Time	dum · ĝis · antaŭ · post	during · until · before · after
Reason, means, company	pro · por · per · kun · sen	because of · for · by means of · with · without
Subject, relation	pri · laŭ · krom · anstataŭ · malgraŭ	about · according to · apart from · instead of · in spite of
Quantity	da · po	of (after an amount) · each, at the rate of

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
La libro estas sur la tablo, apud la telefono.	The book is on the table, beside the telephone.
Mi iras kun amiko al la stacidomo.	I go with a friend to the station.
Teo kun sukero, sed sen lakto.	Tea with sugar, but without milk.
Ni parolas pri la vetero.	We are talking about the weather.

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi ne iros pro la pluvo.	I won't go because of the rain.
Li laboras de lundo ĝis vendredo.	He works from Monday until Friday.
Mi havas tri tasojn da teo.	I have three cups of tea.

Watch out: da, je and the plain noun

da goes between an amount word and what is counted: **tri tasoj da teo** (three cups of tea), **multe da tempo** (much time), **kiom da homoj** (how many people). Unlike English *of*, it is used only for quantities. **je** is the only preposition with no meaning of its own; use it when no other preposition fits, for example **je la tria** (at three o'clock). Where possible choose another word or the plain accusative instead. After **en**, **sur** and **sub** the noun is plain, and it gets **-n** only when it shows movement into, onto or under: **sur la tablon** (onto the table).

Time without a preposition

A length of time or a day can take the plain accusative **-n** instead of a preposition: **Mi laboris la tutan nokton.** (I worked all night.) **Mi venos lundon.** (I'll come on Monday, but **lunde** with *-e* is also used for "on Mondays".)

Numbers

0–5	6–10	TENS AND UP
nul 0 · unu 1 · du 2 · tri 3 · kvar 4 · kvin 5	ses 6 · sep 7 · ok 8 · naŭ 9 · dek 10	cent 100 · mil 1000 · milionoj 1,000,000

Numbers are built by putting the words together. Multiplying a ten or a hundred attaches the digit to it, and the pieces are separated by spaces:

NUMBER	ESPERANTO	BUILT FROM
11	dek unu	10 + 1
20	dudek	2 × 10
21	dudek unu	20 + 1
100	cent	
200	ducent	2 × 100
365	tricent sesdek kvin	3×100, 6×10, 5
1999	mil naŭcent naŭdek naŭ	1000, 9×100, 9×10, 9

Numbers do not take **-j** (but **unu** goes with a singular noun, so **unu libro**, **du libroj**). The related forms are built with a single ending each:

IDEA	ENDING	EXAMPLE
ordinal (1st, 2nd)	-a	unua, dua, tria, deka
ordinal, adverb (firstly)	-e	unue, due
times	-foje	unufoje, dufoje once, twice
multiples	-obla	duobla double
fractions	-ono	duono, triono, kvarono half, third, quarter
each	po	po du two each

The clock, the days, the months

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Kioma horo estas?	What time is it?
Estas la tria.	It is three o'clock.
Estas la kvara kaj dek.	It is ten past four.
Mi venos je la sesa.	I'll come at six.
tagmezo · noktomezo	noon · midnight

Days: lundo, mardo, merkredo, ĵaŭdo, vendredo, sabato, dimanĉo (Monday to Sunday). **Months: januaro, februaro, marto, aprilo, majo, junio, julio, aŭgusto, septembro, oktobro, novembro, decembro.** Neither is capitalised. A date is written like **la 26-a de oktobro 2026**, and read as **la dudek-sesa de oktobro**. Money uses the usual names: **eŭro** and **pundo** (pound) (check): **Kiom kostas? Tri eŭroj.**



In Use — En uzo

Read each exchange aloud and watch the prepositions and numbers.

① The train

A:

Kioma horo estas?
What time is it?

B:

Estas la tria kaj dek.
It's ten past three.

A:

La trajno foriras je la kvara.
The train leaves at four.

B:

② Where is it?

A:

Kie estas mia libro?
Where is my book?

B:

Ĝi estas sub la seĝo, inter la gazetoj.
It's under the chair, among the newspapers.

Vi havas ankoraŭ kvindek minutojn.

You still have fifty minutes.

③ A tired brother

A:

Kiu estas tiu dormanta viro?

Who is that sleeping man?

B:

Li estas mia frato. Li estas laca, ĉar li laboris la tutan nokton.

He's my brother. He's tired, because he worked all night.

Quick Reference — Rapida referenco

ITEM	RULE	EXAMPLE
Active participles	-ant- -int- -ont-	dormanta
Passive participles	-at- -it- -ot-	fermita
Passive	esti + passive participle, agent with de	legata de multaj
Prepositions	one meaning each; plain noun after	sur la tablo
Quantity	da	tri tasoj da teo
Numbers	12 words, spaced	tricent sesdek kvin
Ordinals, fractions	-a · -ono	tria · duono

Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Say "the sleeping man" and "the closed door".

▼ Show answer

la dormanta viro and **la fermita pordo**.

2. What is the difference between *la skribinta viro* and *la skribita letero*?

▼ Show answer

The first is the man who wrote (active, -*int-*). The second is the letter that was written (passive, -*it-*).

3. Translate "The book is read by many."

▼ Show answer

La libro estas legata de multaj.

4. Say "on the table", "under the chair" and "between the books".

▼ Show answer

sur la tablo, sub la seĝo, inter la libroj.

5. Say "tea with sugar, without milk".

▼ Show answer

teo kun sukero, sen lakto.

6. Say "I am going to Edinburgh" in two ways.

▼ Show answer

Mi iras al Edinburgo. or Mi iras Edinburgon.

7. Write 17, 40 and 365 in Esperanto.

▼ Show answer

dek sep, kvardek, tricent sesdek kvin.

8. Say "the third" and "firstly".

▼ Show answer

la tria and unue.

9. Say "It is ten past four" and "at six o'clock".

▼ Show answer

Estas la kvara kaj dek. and je la sesa.

10. Say "the 26th of October".

▼ Show answer

la dudek-sesa de oktobro (written la 26-a de oktobro).

Words used in this chapter

The prepositions listed above · **skribi** write · **dormi** sleep · **konstrui** build · **pasi** pass · **semajno** week · **jaro** year · **letero** letter · **gazeto** newspaper · **seĝo** chair · **telefono** telephone · **trajno** train · **minuto** minute · **horo** hour · **nokto** night · **tago** day · **tuta** whole · **laca** tired · **pluvo** rain · **vetero** weather · **sukero** sugar · **lakto** milk · **taso** cup · **eŭro** euro · **pundo** pound · **foriri** leave

Coming up in Chapter 8: Sentences and Putting It Together. Conjunctions, subordinate clauses with **ke**, negatives, word order, an error clinic and the end of the course.

Esperanto Grammar 1

Chapter 8 · Sentences and Putting It Together

❖ Putting It Together — Kunmetado

*The pieces are all on the table. This chapter joins them into sentences: the small words that link clauses, the way **ke** reports what someone said, how to negate, and how word order and emphasis work. It ends with a clinic on the mistakes learners make most, two short texts, and the Course Complete recap.*

THE RULE IN ONE BOX

Build the sentence from the endings you know: noun **-o**, plural **-j**, object **-n**, adjective **-a**, adverb **-e**, verb **-as/-is/-os/-us/-u/-i**. Join clauses with a **comma plus a linking word** (**ke**, **kiu**, **ĉar**, **se**). Use **one** negative word, not two.

Linking words

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
kaj · sed · aŭ	and · but · or	Mi ŝatas teon, sed ne kafon. I like tea, but not coffee.
ĉar	because	Mi restas hejme, ĉar pluvas. I'm staying at home because it's raining.
se	if	Se pluvos, ni ne iros. If it rains, we won't go.
kvankam	although	Kvankam estas malvarme, mi iras. Although it's cold, I'm going.
tamen · do	however · so, then	Li estas laca, tamen li laboras. He's tired, yet he works.
dum · kiam	while · when	Dum mi legas, ŝi dormas. While I read, she sleeps.
antaŭ ol · post kiam	before · after (a clause)	Antaŭ ol mi foriras, mi trinkas teon. Before I leave, I drink tea.
por ke	so that	Mi parolas malrapide, por ke vi komprenu. I speak slowly so that you can understand.

In Esperanto, **every clause is set off by a comma**, which is stricter than English. The link word starts the clause, and the verb inside keeps the endings from Chapter 4, with no special subordinate-clause form.

The word ke, and reporting speech

ke means *that* after verbs of saying, thinking, knowing and hoping, and the comma before it is always written:

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi scias, ke li venos.	I know that he will come.
Mi pensas, ke ĝi estas bona.	I think that it is good.

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi esperas, ke vi venos.	I hope you'll come.
Mi volas, ke vi venu.	I want you to come.

After *want*, the clause with **ke** takes the wish ending **-u** (Chapter 4). And in reported speech the tense stays the same as in the original words:

ORIGINAL WORDS	REPORTED
"Mi venos." (I will come.)	Li diris, ke li venos . He said he would come.
"Mi estas laca." (I am tired.)	Li diris, ke li estas laca . He said he was tired.

Watch out: no "backshift" as in English

English moves the tense back (*will* → *would*, *am* → *was*). Esperanto does not: it keeps the tense of the words as they were spoken. So *He said he would come* is **Li diris, ke li venos**, and *He said he was tired* is **Li diris, ke li estas laca**. Writing **venus** or **estis** here is the commonest mistake English speakers make with **ke**.

Negatives

ESPERANTO	ENGLISH
Mi ne havas tempon.	I have no time.
Mi vidis neniun .	I saw nobody. (neniu is already negative: no <i>ne</i>)
Li neniam venas frue.	He never comes early.
Nek teo nek kafo.	Neither tea nor coffee.
Ne mi, sed li.	Not me, but him.

Rule: with one of the **neni-** words of Chapter 6 (**neniu**, **nenio**, **neniam**, **nenie**) you do **not** add **ne**. Esperanto has no double negative: one negative word is enough, and adding **ne** would be a mistake.

Word order, emphasis, elision

- **Normal order:** subject, verb, object, as in English. It is the safe default.
- **Free order:** because the object ends in **-n**, you can put it first for emphasis: **La katon vidas la hundo**. (It is *the cat* that the dog sees.)
- **Question words** and **ĉu** start the sentence. **ne** goes before the word it negates.
- **Adjectives** normally come before their noun; adverbs go next to the verb they describe.
- **Elision** (rule 16): the *a* of **la** and the final *o* of a noun may be dropped and replaced by an apostrophe, mostly in poetry and song: **I' amiko** for **la amiko** (check).

- **International words** (rule 15): words that exist in many languages are taken in with Esperanto spelling and endings: **telefono, hotelo, radio, komputilo.**

Error clinic

#	MISTAKE	CORRECT	WHY
1	Mi vidas la hundoj.	Mi vidas la hundojn.	The object needs <i>-n</i> (<i>-jn</i> in the plural).
2	La domo estas grandan.	La domo estas granda.	After <i>esti</i> the adjective does not take <i>-n</i> .
3	Mi estas bone.	Mi fartas bone.	After <i>esti</i> use an adjective; for "how you are" use <i>fartas</i> .
4	Mi ne vidis neniun.	Mi vidis neniun.	One negative word only.
5	Li estas pli alta kiel mi.	Li estas pli alta ol mi.	<i>pli</i> goes with <i>ol</i> ; <i>kiel</i> goes with <i>tiel</i> .
6	Kiu libron vi legas?	Kiun libron vi legas?	<i>kiu</i> agrees with the noun it asks about.
7	Mi loĝas en Edinburgon.	Mi loĝas en Edinburgo.	No movement, so no direction <i>-n</i> .
8	Li diris, ke li venus morgaŭ.	Li diris, ke li venos morgaŭ.	Reported speech keeps the original tense.
9	Mi donis la libron la knabo.	Mi donis la libron al la knabo.	The person who receives takes <i>al</i> .
10	La viro kiu loĝas tie estas mia amiko.	La viro, kiu loĝas tie, estas mia amiko.	Commas around the relative clause.

Two short texts

Text 1: read it

Mi nomiĝas Filipino kaj mi loĝas en Edinburgo, la ĉefurbo de Skotlando. Mi laboras en teknika subteno: mi helpas homojn, kiuj havas problemojn kun siaj komputiloj. Nun mi lernas Esperanton, ĉar mi ŝatas lingvojn. Antaŭe mi lernis la hungaran kaj la germanan. Esperanto ŝajnas pli facila ol ili, ĉar la gramatiko estas tre regula, sed mi devas ankoraŭ lerni multajn vortojn. Mi esperas, ke mi iam parolos ĝin bone.

▼ Show the English

My name is Philip and I live in Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland. I work in technical support: I help people who have problems with their computers. Now I am learning Esperanto, because I like languages. Before, I learned Hungarian and German. Esperanto seems easier than they are, because the grammar is very regular, but I still have to learn many words. I hope that one day I will speak it well.

Text 2: find the four mistakes

Hieraŭ mi iris al la urbo kun mia amiko. Ni vidis tre bela kastelo. Ĝi estas pli granda kiel mia domo. Mi ne vidis nenium homon tie, ĉar estis malfrue.

▼ Show the corrections

1. **tre belan kastelon**: both the adjective and the noun are objects of *vidis*, so each needs *-n* (two mistakes). 2. **pli granda ol**, not *kiel*. 3. **Mi vidis nenium homon** (no extra *ne*), or **Mi ne vidis iun homon**.

 Quick Reference — The whole course in one table

PART OF SPEECH	FORM	ADD
Noun	root + -o	-j plural · -n object or direction
Adjective	root + -a	copies -j -n from the noun
Adverb	root + -e	nothing
Verb	root + -i -as -is -os -us -u	nothing (no agreement)
Participle	root + -ant -int -ont -at -it -ot + ending	as noun, adjective or adverb
Pronoun	mi vi li ŝi ĝi ni ili oni si	-n object · -a possessive
Correlatives	5 beginnings × 9 endings	-j -n as the ending requires
Word-building	prefix + root + suffix + ending	main word last

 Try It Yourself — Ekzercoj

Say the answer first, then click to check.

1. Translate "I know that he will come."

▼ Show answer

Mi scias, ke li venos.

2. Translate "I want you to come."

▼ Show answer

Mi volas, ke vi venu. (the wish ending *-u*)

3. Translate "He said that he was tired."

▼ Show answer

Li diris, ke li estas laca. The tense stays as in the original words.

4. Translate "Neither tea nor coffee."

▼ Show answer

Nek teo nek kafo.

5. Translate "If I had time, I would come."

▼ Show answer

Se mi havus tempon, mi venus.

6. Translate "Although it is cold, I am going."

▼ Show answer

Kvankam estas malvarme, mi iras.

7. Put "the cat" first in *La hundo vidas la katon* for emphasis.

▼ Show answer

La katon vidas la hundo.

8. Correct: *Mi ne havas neniun amikon.*

▼ Show answer

Mi havas neniun amikon. or Mi ne havas amikon.

9. Translate "I don't know whether he is at home."

▼ Show answer

Mi ne scias, ĉu li estas hejme.

10. Write three sentences about yourself in Esperanto, using at least one object with *-n*, one adjective and one past or future verb.

▼ Show a model

Mi loĝas en Edinburgo. Mi havas grandan libron. Morgaŭ mi laboros. (Your own sentences will differ: check that the object ends in *-n*, the adjective copies it, and the verb has *-is* or *-os*.)

Course Complete — Gratulon!

You have worked through the sounds, the endings, the whole verb system, word-building, the correlative table, the participles, the prepositions and numbers, and the way sentences are joined. Here is what you can now do:

CHAPTER	YOU CAN NOW...
1	Read any Esperanto word aloud with the right stress, and type the accented letters.
2	Build nouns, plurals and objects, and use <i>la</i> correctly.
3	Describe, compare and add the right endings to adjectives and adverbs.

CHAPTER	YOU CAN NOW...
4	Use the pronouns and the six verb endings for any person.
5	Build and decode words with prefixes, suffixes and compounds.
6	Use all 45 correlatives from the grid.
7	Use participles, prepositions, numbers, dates and the clock.
8	Join clauses, report speech, negate correctly and fix the usual mistakes.
Course complete. Next: <i>Esperanto Basic Conversation 1</i> is planned but not outlined yet; ask for <i>esperanto_basic1-1</i> when you are ready. It will use the grammar from this course in everyday situations.	