

4

Ordinal numbers

When is your birthday?



It's the **third** of December.

Language focus

Use **ordinal numbers** to talk about the position of something or someone in a series, such as dates or competitors in a race.

*My brother finished **second** in the 200 metres at the school championships.*

*When is your birthday? It's on the **fourth** of June.*

Numbers used for a quantity of something are called **cardinal numbers**.

Cardinal number	Ordinal number	Cardinal number	Ordinal number
1	first	4	fourth
2	second	5	fifth
3	third	6	sixth

In general, ordinal numbers are formed by adding **th** to the cardinal number: **ten – tenth**.

First, second and third are exceptions and do not follow the **th** rule.

The ordinal for eight is **eighth**, not **eightth**.

The ordinal for nine is **ninth**, not **nineth**.

The ordinal for twelve is **twelfth**, not **twelveth**.

In a compound cardinal, use a hyphen, e.g. **thirty-third**.

If a cardinal number ends in **y**, change the **y** to an **i** and then add **eth**.

twenty **twentieth** thirty **thirtieth** forty **fortieth**

1 Write the ordinal numbers.

1 7 seventh

3 22 _____

5 38 _____

2 15 _____

4 31 _____

6 44 _____

2 Write the dates with ordinal numbers.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1 3 January | <u>the third of January</u> | 4 23 February | _____ |
| 2 5 May | _____ | 5 8 November | _____ |
| 3 29 July | _____ | 6 30 August | _____ |

3 Replace the underlined phrases with dates written in full.

Hi, Grandma

I've got so much to tell you! On (1) 2 March, Florence won her school swimming championship. She was brilliant! (2) The next day, my football team got to the final of the Morley Cup. The match will be on (3) 4 May. I can't wait. On (4) the day after the final, I'm going on a school trip to Amsterdam.

Don't forget all the birthdays coming up, Grandma! It's Florence's on (5) 25 April. Mine is (6) three days later!

Love, Sophia

- | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| 1 _____ | <u>the second of March</u> | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | _____ | 6 _____ |

4 Complete your diary. Write one activity for each day.

● MAY

● 7 Monday	
● 8 Tuesday	
● 9 Wednesday	
● 10 Thursday	
● 11 Friday	
● 12 Saturday	
● 13 Sunday	

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 What are you doing on the eighth of May? _____
- 2 What are you doing on the tenth of May? _____
- 3 What are you doing on the twelfth of May? _____
- 4 What are you doing on the thirteenth of May? _____