

69 Too and enough

1 Look at this example:



*The case is **too heavy**. He can't carry it.*

We use **too** to mean 'more than is good or suitable in the situation'.

2 We can use **too** like this:

too + ADJECTIVE:

*I don't want to go out. I'm **too tired**.*

too many + PLURAL NOUN:

*I couldn't find her at the concert because there were **too many people** there.*

too much + UNCOUNTABLE NOUN:

(e.g. **too much work/money/food/noise/salt/information/time/bread**)

*Our teacher gives us **too much work**.*

3 We can use **too** with **to + infinitive** to explain why someone cannot do something:
*She's **too young to drive**. (= She can't drive because she's too young.)*

4 Now look at this example:



*This case is **big enough**. I can put all my clothes into it. The small case **isn't big enough**.*

We use **enough** to mean 'as much or as many as we need'. We use **not ... enough** to mean 'less than we need'.

5 We can use **enough** like this:

ADJECTIVE + enough:

*Is your room **warm enough**?*

enough + PLURAL NOUN:

*I've got **enough potatoes**, thanks.*

enough + UNCOUNTABLE NOUN:

*I can't talk to you now. I haven't got **enough time**.*

6 We can also use **not ... enough + to + infinitive** to say why someone cannot do something:
*She **isn't old enough to drive**. (= She can't drive because she isn't old enough.)*

Practice

A Complete the sentences using **too** or **enough** and the word in brackets ().

- ▶ I can't eat this soup because it's too hot (hot).
- ▶ We couldn't buy the tickets because we didn't have enough money (money).
- ▶ We didn't buy the car because it wasn't big enough (big).
- 1 I couldn't see her because it was (dark).
- 2 I can't decide what to do because I haven't got (information).
- 3 You can't change the situation now. It's (late).
- 4 Have you had (food), or would you like some more?
- 5 He did badly in the exam because he was (nervous).
- 6 Slow down! You're driving (fast).
- 7 He shouldn't play in the team because he isn't (good).
- 8 I haven't got (clothes). I must buy some more.
- 9 Robert didn't go to work because he didn't feel (well).
- 10 I couldn't lift the suitcase because I wasn't (strong).
- 11 We didn't go swimming because the water was (cold).
- 12 Mary couldn't post all the letters because she didn't have (stamps).

B Complete the sentences using *too much*, *too many* or *enough* and the word in brackets ().

- ▶ I'm not enjoying my job at the moment because they're giving me too much work (work).
- ▶ Is your coffee sweet enough (sweet)?
 - 1 Shall we have another coffee? Have we got (time)?
 - 2 I couldn't finish the exam because there were (questions).
 - 3 We didn't go for a walk because it wasn't (warm).
 - 4 I couldn't eat the meal because there was (salt) in it.
 - 5 Mary passed the test because she answered (questions) correctly.
 - 6 I didn't enjoy the party because there were (people) there.
 - 7 Is that chair (comfortable) or would you like to sit here?
 - 8 George couldn't work because the others were making (noise).
 - 9 We can't play that game because we haven't got (players).
 - 10 Shall I make some sandwiches? Have we got (bread)?
 - 11 Her work isn't very good. She makes (mistakes).

C Join each pair of sentences using *too* or *enough* with *to + infinitive* (e.g. *to do*, *to go*).

- ▶ Clare couldn't sleep. She was too worried.
Clare was too worried to sleep.
- ▶ I can't go on holiday. I haven't got enough money.
I haven't got enough money to go on holiday.
- 1 I can't do any more work. I'm too tired.
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- 2 Judy won't pass the exam. She isn't good enough.
.....
- 3 Clive can't play basketball. He's too short.
.....
- 4 His girlfriend couldn't go to the party. She was too ill.
.....
- 5 David couldn't pay the bill. He didn't have enough money.
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- 6 Shall we go to the beach? Is it hot enough?
.....
- 7 I can't see you tonight. I'm too busy.
.....
- 8 I don't want to go home. It's too early.
.....
- 9 Chris couldn't repair the car. He didn't have enough tools.
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- 10 I didn't visit all the museums. I didn't have enough time.
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