

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 the third of January

2 5 May _____

3 29 July _____

4 23 February _____

5 8 November _____

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 _____ the second of March

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

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? _____