



UNIT 1

NEW FRIENDS

Before We Start



Hello! I'm the avatar of one of the teachers of UEC, and I'm going to give you an English tip! I call this the "Golden Rule" of tenses in English.



Consider 2 things:

1. The **subject** of the sentence (the person, animal or thing the speaker is referring to or who is executing the action). Notice that the subject is not reduced to only one word. It is ALL that's mentioned of the doer of the action.
For example: **The girl in red dress** is beautiful. (*Not only "the girl"*)
2. Something that I call a "key element". It can be the verb "To Be" [in present (am/is/are) or past (was/were)], an **auxiliary verb** (do/does, did, have/has, etcetera.) or a **modal verb** (would, should, must, can, could, might, may, etc.)
Most of the times, in affirmative sentences, it goes immediately after the subject (except in Simple Present and Simple Past)

THE GOLDEN RULE: (WORKS IN NEGATIVE AND INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES)

- **NEGATIVE SENTENCES:** only add **not** AFTER the key element.
 - Alyssa **is** my classmate → Alyssa is **not** my classmate
- **INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES:** subject and key element switch position
 - Alyssa **is** my classmate → Is Alyssa my classmate?

THIS RULE WORKS IN EVERY TENSE IN ENGLISH!

Greetings and Farewells

Look at these conversations: What is the difference?

Situation 1



Situation 2



The first one is an informal situation (with a very close friend of yours) and the second one is an informal situation. Check the table below:

FORMAL GREETINGS	INFORMAL GREETINGS
Good morning Good afternoon Good evening How do you do? Greetings (<i>written only</i>)	Hey (<i>there</i>)! What's up?/'sup? Hi (<i>there</i>)! Hiya Howdy!
NEUTRAL GREETINGS	
Hello	

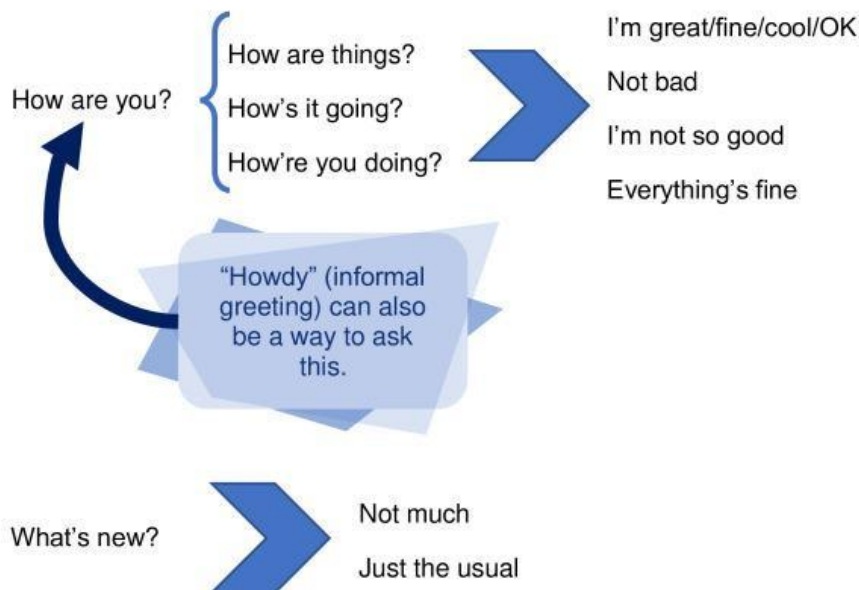
There are also formal and informal ways to say goodbye, such as these:

FORMAL FAREWELLS	INFORMAL FAREWELLS
Have a nice/good day Goodbye Good night Best/Kind regards (<i>written only</i>)	See ya! Bye! See you around Catch you later Gotta go
NEUTRAL FAREWELLS	
Goodbye Take care See you (later/tomorrow/next week...) *	

*In this case, you can add the moment you expect to see the other person again.

HOW ARE YOU?

This question could also be considered a greeting, because it's mentioned right after you meet somebody. It serves for asking for a person's physical or psychological well-being or state (*¿cómo estás?*)



Introducing People

Look at this situation:



You can use "Nice to meet you, too" to answer or just "you too" (**DO NOT SAY "ME TOO"**)

"Pleased to meet you" is more formal. You can use titles such as *Mr. Ms. Miss, Mrs.* to be formal.

LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Complete the text bubbles with the correct phrase. Pay attention to the situation.

Ok, see ya!	Howdy!	Good morning, Mr. Anderson. This is Ms. Jones.
Nice to meet you too, sir.	Hey, dude. Well, I'm in a hurry now. Gotta go.	Nice to meet you, Ms. Jones.

1



2



Personal Information

In order to ask and answer personal information questions, you need to know some things.

- Simple Present
- Personal (Subject) Pronouns
- Verb "To Be" (Simple Present)

Check "**Appendix**"
for more
information.

Pay attention to this situation:



You will need to know the alphabet and the numbers in English.

The alphabet

A (<i>éi</i>)	J (<i>lléi</i>)	S (<i>es</i>)
B (<i>bi</i>)	K (<i>kéi</i>)	T (<i>tí</i>)
C (<i>si</i>)	L (<i>el</i>)	U (<i>iú</i>)
D (<i>dí</i>)	M (<i>em</i>)	V (<i>ví</i>)
E (<i>i</i>)	N (<i>en</i>)	W (<i>dábol iú</i>)
F (<i>ef</i>)	O (<i>óu</i>)	X (<i>eks</i>)
G (<i>llí</i>)	P (<i>pí</i>)	Y (<i>uái</i>)
H (<i>éich</i>)	Q (<i>kiú</i>)	Z (<i>zet/zí</i>)
I (<i>ái</i>)	R (<i>ar</i>)	

The text in blue is an approximate pronunciation

Numbers

0. zero (<i>zírrou</i>)	20. twenty (<i>tuénti</i> o <i>tuéni</i>)
1. one (<i>uán</i>)	21. twenty-one (<i>tuéni uán</i>)
2. two (<i>tu</i>)	22. twenty-two (<i>tuéni tú</i>)
3. three (<i>zrí</i>)	23. twenty-three (<i>tuéni zrí</i>)
4. four (<i>fóor</i>)	30. thirty (<i>zérti</i>)
5. five (<i>fáiv</i>)	40. forty (<i>forti</i>)
6. six (<i>six</i>)	50. fifty (<i>fifti</i>)
7. seven (<i>séven</i> o <i>sevn</i>)	60. sixty (<i>síxti</i>)
8. eight (<i>éit</i>)	70. seventy (<i>séventi</i>)
9. nine (<i>náin</i>)	80. eighty (<i>éiti</i>)
10. ten (<i>ten</i>)	90. ninety (<i>náinti</i>)
11. eleven (<i>eléven</i> o <i>iléven</i>)	100. one hundred (<i>uán jándred</i>)
12. twelve (<i>tuelv</i>)	200. two hundred (<i>tú jándred</i>)
13. thirteen (<i>zertiin</i>)	1000. one thousand (<i>uán záusan</i>)
14. fourteen (<i>fortiin</i>)	
15. fifteen (<i>fiftiin</i>)	
16. sixteen (<i>sixtiin</i>)	
17. seventeen (<i>seventiin</i>)	
18. eighteen (<i>eightiin</i>)	
19. nineteen (<i>naintiin</i>)	

Some tips:

- From 13 to 19 and from 30 to 90 the root of the word is almost the same, only changing the ending (**-teen** from 13 to 19 and **-ty** from 30 to 90).
- For hundreds, only use a number from 1 to 9 and add **hundred**.
- For thousands, you can use numbers from 1 to 999 and add **thousand** at the end.

There are questions whose function is to ask specific information, such as personal data, living place or origin, age, interests, etc. Here are some of them:

ASKS	QUESTION	ANSWER	EXAMPLE
Data	What's your... (name/last name/address/phone number/nationality)?	My (<i>data</i>) is...	My name is Gabriel.
Age	How old are you?	I'm... (years old)	I'm 25 years old.
Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do you live? (<i>at present</i>) • Where are you from? (<i>origin</i>) 	I live in... I'm from...	I live in Boston. I'm from Madrid.
Job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you do (for a living)? • What's your occupation? 	I'm a/an* ...	I'm a teacher.
Spelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you spell... (your name/your last name/it)? • Can you spell... (your name/your last name/it)? 	It's...	It's A-R-A-G-O-N.
Hobbies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your hobbies? • What do you like $\begin{cases} \text{to do?} \\ \text{doing?} \end{cases}$ 	I like $\begin{cases} \text{to+action} \\ \text{action+ing} \end{cases}$	I like to read I like reading
Another way to ask	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you give me your... (phone number) 	It's...	It's 957348520

* **a** if the next word starts with a consonant sound, **an** if the next word starts with a vowel sound

LET'S PRACTICE A LITTLE!

Look at this info card. Ask or answer questions.



Name: Mark Brown
Age: 23 years old
Origin: New York, USA
Address: 325 Louis St.
Job/Occupation: Mechanic
Interests: watching horror movies

My name is Mark Brown

It's B-R-O-W-N.

How old are you?

Where are you from?

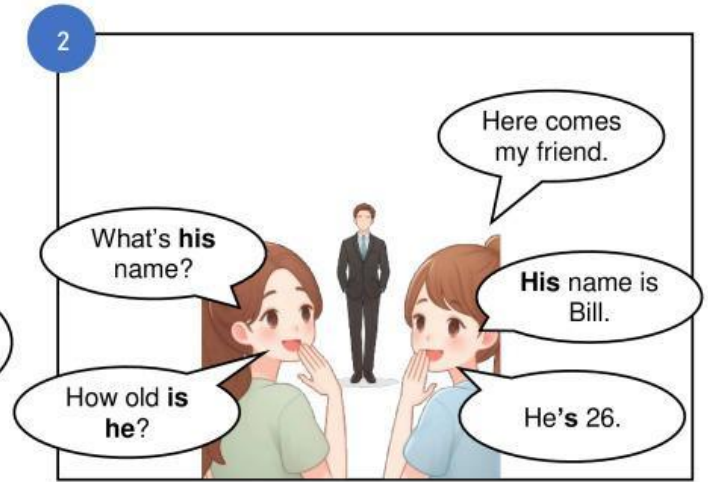
What's your address?

I'm a mechanic.

I like watching horror movies

Giving Someone Else's Information

Compare both situations:



The questions and answers are almost the same, just change the pronouns, the possessive adjectives and use the corresponding form of the verb "To Be" (check [Appendix, p. 50](#))

Example:

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE		VERB "TO BE"
My Your His Her Its	name	is
Our Their	names	are

REMEMBER:

Am: refers to the speaker

Are: refers to the person the speaker is directly speaking to; two or more.

Is: refers to **ONE** human who is not in the conversation; **ONE** non-human thing