Lesson : It's all in the numbers!

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Practice using numbers and learn how to express cardinal and ordinal numbers in English. Learn how to make and cancel appointments and practice using new vocabulary and expressions for scheduling.

Activity one: Number questions



1. How old are you?
2. When is your birthday?
3. What time do you wake up? What time do you go to bed?
4. What was your first job?
5. How many people do you think live in France?

In English we use both Cardinal and Ordinal numbers.
Cardinal numbers are used to explain HOW MANY things there are:

There are five books on the shelf.

I am in charge of thirty people in my department.

There are seven trucks which ship products to **one-hundred** stores.

I have **thirty-six** days of vacation a year.

***(When writing cardinal numbers, use a hyphen for numbers above twenty.)

Let's review our cardinal numbers:

One- two- three- four- five- six- seven- eight- nine- ten- eleven- twelve- thirteen- fourteen- fifteen- sixteen- seventeen- eighteen- nineteen- twenty…… thirty (30) forty (40) fifty (50) sixty (60) seventy (70) eighty (80) ninety (90) one-hundred…. One thousand…. One million… one billion…. Etc

For numbers over a hundred, and less than a thousand we use AND



There are **three hundred AND sixty-five** days in a year

Over **five hundred AND fifty couches** to choose from

Numbers over one thousand:

9,565= Nine thousand five hundred **and** sixty-five

6,420= Six thousand four hundred **and** twenty.

200,764= Two hundred thousand seven hundred **and** sixty-four.

Activity two: How do you say these numbers out loud?

1. 563
2. 61
3. 98
4. 367
5. 1,743
6. 325,420

Ordinal Numbers: We use ordinal numbers for dates and rankings in English. For example:

My birthday is on September 18th (eighteenth).

This weekend I came in 2nd (second) in my swimming competition.

France is 1st (first) in global wine exports. America is 6th (sixth).

Let's review our ordinal numbers

First 1st-second 2nd-third 3rd-fourth 4th-fifth 5th-sixth-seventh-eighth- ninth-tenth-eleventh- **twelfth**- thirteenth-fourteenth- fifteenth-sixteenth-seventeenth-eighteenth-nineteenth-twentieth…. Thirtieth…. Fortieth….fiftieth…. sixtieth…. Seventieth… eightieth… ninetieth…. One hundredth…

Activity three: How do you say these cardinal numbers out loud?

1. 23rd
2. 622nd
3. 40th
4. 789th
5. 12th
6. 19th

Activity four: In most English speaking countries, we use the 12 hour clock instead of the 24h clock (which is used in France). We use AM and PM to distinguish if we are talking about the morning or night. How would we say these times in English?

1. 10h=
2. 12h=
3. 16h=
4. 19h=
5. 21h=
6. 00h=

Activity five: Read this dialogue about scheduling an appointment. Which numbers are ordinal numbers and which are cardinal numbers?

Julie: Excuse me, can you help me? I want a new sofa but I am not sure which one. Can you tell me about this blue one?

Shopkeeper: This is a very popular choice, it's our 3rd best seller. It can seat 4 people comfortably and it also folds out into a bed. It cost £4,235. If you are interested, I would suggest that you buy it today, we only have two left in stock.

Julie: I am not sure if blue is the right color for my house… What about this leather one?

Shopkeeper: I am afraid the leather one is out of stock. We won't be getting a new shipment until January 31st.

Julie: Oh, that is too late for me. I suppose I will take the blue one. Do you offer delivery?

Shopkeeper: Of course. Will someone be at your house next week, April the 17th between 4 and 5pm?

Julie: I am not free on the 17th. Would it be possible on the 23rd in the morning, between 8 and 11am?

Shopkeeper: Yes, that will work. What is your address?

Julie: I live at 125 West 5th avenue.

Activity six: Scheduling



1. Do you often schedule appointments? With whom?
2. Do you have a lot of free time or a little?
3. What is difficult about your schedule?
4. What is a positive aspect about your schedule?

EXPRESSIONS FOR SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS

-When are you available? I am available ON (day) AT (time)….

-When are you free? I am free ON (day) AT (time)….

-Are you free/available ON (day) AT (time)?

- How does (date) (ex: the third of April) sound to you?

-Can we meet on (date)…

- Is next (weekday) (ex: Saturday) okay for you?

-What about next (weekday) (ex: Monday)?

-When is it convenient for you to get together?

-Can you let me know if (date) works for you?



TO CONFIRM AN APPOINTMENT

-(date) is fine.

- (date) works for me.

-(date) would be perfect.

- (date) suits me.

TO DECLINE AN APPOINTMENT

-I won't be able to meet on…(date)

-I'm afraid I am not available on….(date)

-I'm sorry, I don't think I can make it on… (date)

-I will be busy on…. (date)



HOW TO CANCEL AN APPOINTMENT

I'm sorry, something has suddenly come up and I won't be able to make our appointment.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, I will not be able to make our appointment on… (date).

I'm afraid something unexpected has come up, could we change the date of our meeting?

My apologies, but I am afraid I need to cancel our appointment. When could we reschedule?

Activity Seven : **Idiomatic Expressions** related to time/scheduling ***(Optional activity, if time for it).*** Read the idiomatic expressions out loud. Have you seen these before? What do you think they mean?

-Hard to get a hold of

-Do it when it suits

-Whenever floats your boat

-I'm jammed/I'm swamped

-I'm free as a bird

-My schedule is wide open

-Better late than never

-Long time no see

-Time is of the essence

Activity Eight: Role-plays

1. You've reserved a table for lunch with your girlfriend/boyfriend, but you forgot you have an important work meeting! Now it's time to cancel with someone….
2. Your colleague has been avoiding your emails but you need to meet with him about a project. Try to persuade him to schedule some time for you
3. You've mixed up your dates and missed your mother's birthday! Explain to her what happened.
4. You're back is hurting and you need to see a doctor. Schedule an appointment with the secretary.

It's the end of your lesson; it's time to schedule your next appointment with your teacher!

