

# The use of *enough* and *too*

GRAMMAR

LEVEL  
Intermediate

NUMBER  
B1\_2012G\_EN

LANGUAGE  
English

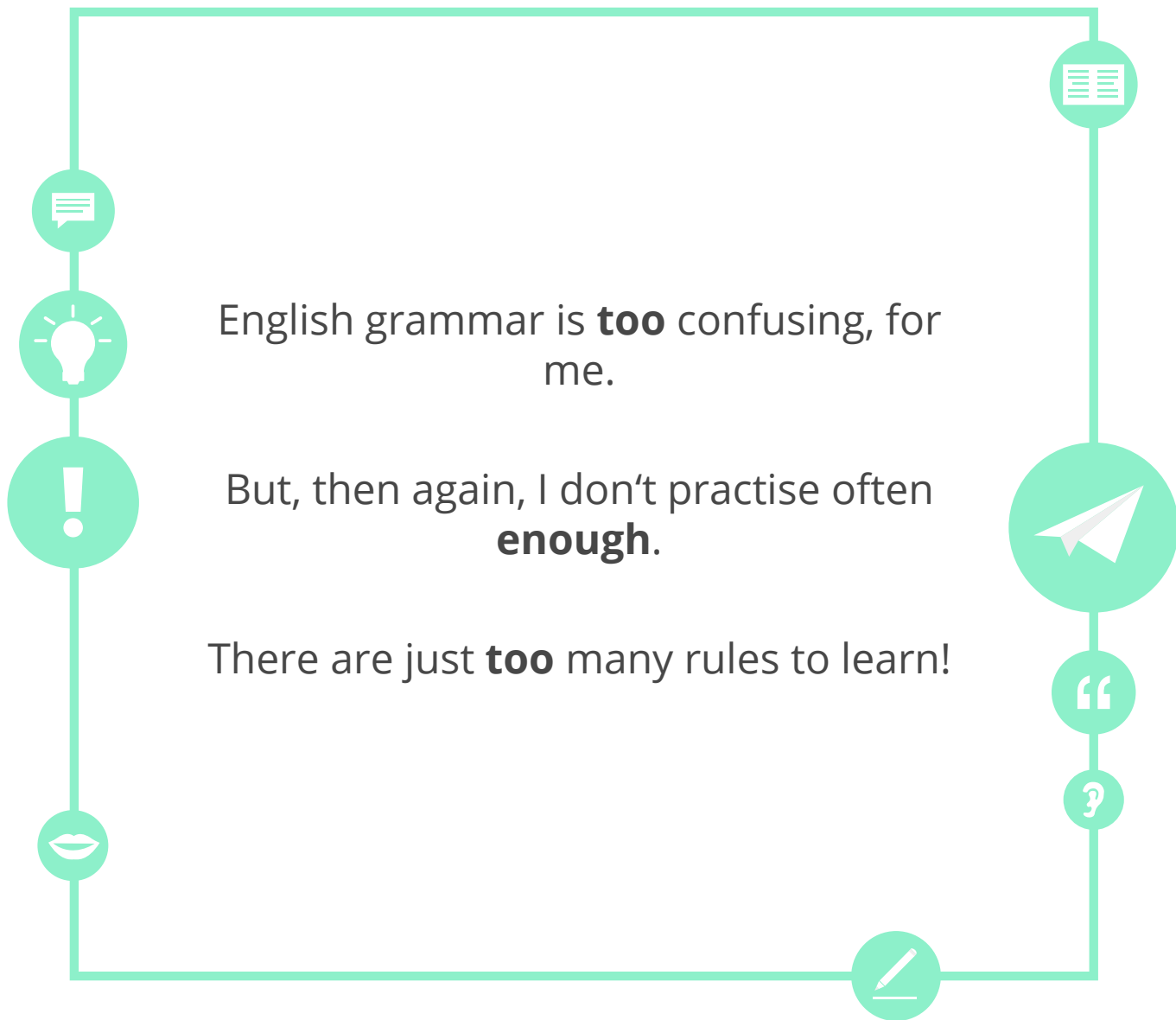




## Goals

- Can provide a simple comparison of when to use 'enough' and when to use 'too'.
- Can accurately use 'enough' and 'too' in a range of straightforward sentences.







## The use of *enough* and *too*

- Is there **more** or **less of something** that we want or need? Or is there just the **right amount** or **number**?
- ***Enough*** and ***too*** tell us the answer to these questions.



These crisps are **too** salty.  
They are not healthy **enough**.



## ***Enough* + noun**

- We use ***enough*** before a **noun** when there is **as much** or **as many** of what we need.
- Look at the examples below:



She has **enough money** to buy a ticket.

The train has **enough seats** for all the passengers





## *Enough* + noun

- We often use enough after the verbs *have*, *be* and *got*.



There is **enough coffee** for everyone.

We've got **enough time** to eat before  
our flight.





## *Enough* + noun in negative sentences

- It is very common to use ***don't/doesn't*** and ***isn't/aren't*** to say that there is **not as much** or **as many** of the noun as needed.
- We also often use negative modal verbs with ***enough*** + noun: ***can't, might not, shouldn't***.



There **isn't enough coffee** for everyone.

We **might not have enough time** to eat  
before our flight.





## Transform the sentences using *enough* + noun

1. We don't have as many staff as needed.

→ We don't have **enough** staff.

2. We made as much money as needed last year.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. I don't get as much exercise as needed.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. My husband doesn't read as many books as he should.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. I already own as many clothes as I need.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





## ***Enough* + noun**

Look at the pictures and use *enough* to finish each of the sentences below.

You need to match the phrases with the correct pictures.

annual leave



1. I have...



2. There is...

energy

people  
training as  
nurses



3. Have you got...?



4. There aren't...

space in the  
office



## *Enough* without a noun

- We can also use **enough** without a noun when it is clear **what we are talking about** from the **context**.
- Look at the examples below:



I don't want any more cake. I've had **enough**.

Should we do some more exercise or have we done **enough**?





## ***Enough* without a noun**

**Answer the questions below using *enough* without a noun.**

1. Would you like to play another game of tennis?

2. Would you like to see more of my holiday photos?

3. Do we need anymore chairs for the meeting?

4. Have you bought your new car yet?



## Adjective + *enough*

- Unlike with **nouns**, we use *enough* after adjectives.
- **Adjective + enough** tells us **information** about the adjective. Is there **too little** of the adjective? Is there the **right amount**?
- We often follow this structure with the **infinitive** form of the verb.



He is **old enough** to learn to drive.

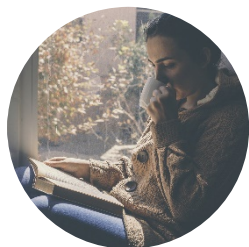
She is **experienced enough** to get the job.





## Adjective + *enough* in negative sentences.

- We use negative forms when the **effects of the adjective** are **less** than desired.



It **isn't warm enough** to read outside.

They weren't **comfortable enough** in a small house, so they bought a bigger one.



The music isn't **loud enough**. We can't hear it.



## Using *enough* in sentences

Use *enough* with one of the words below to fill the gaps in the sentences.  
Be careful – does *enough* go before or after each word?

starters

adventurous

ambitious

meetings

nice

1. Please cancel my 3 o'clock appointment. I have had \_\_\_\_\_ already today.
2. You aren't \_\_\_\_\_. You could do so well if you tried harder.
3. Let's eat at this restaurant. It looks \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Have we ordered \_\_\_\_\_?
5. I don't think I am \_\_\_\_\_. I wish my life was more exciting.





## Adverb + *enough*

- We use ***enough*** after **adverbs**, like **adjectives**.
- Adverbs give us information about the **verb**. They tell us **how** something is **done**.



I finished the work **easily enough**.

I don't practise my English **often enough**.





## Adverb + *enough*

- Here are some more examples of positive and negative sentences.



He didn't study **hard enough** and he failed his test.

She didn't arrive **early enough** for the start of the film.



Am I painting the room **brightly enough**?





## *Enough* with adjectives and nouns together

- We also use **enough** in sentences with **both** an **adjective** and a **noun**.
- **Enough** can take two positions:
  - 1: **enough** + **adjective** + **noun** (**before** the adjective and noun)
  - 2: **noun** + **adjective** + **enough** (**after** the noun and adjective)



There aren't **enough** experienced teachers in the department.  
There aren't any teachers experienced **enough** to teach the course.



## *Enough* and you



Describe yourself to your teacher or classmates using the word ***enough*** and a combination of adjectives, adverbs, and nouns.

For example: I am ***tall enough*** to be a good rock climber, but I don't climb ***fast enough*** to keep up with my friends.



## **Too + quantifier + noun**

- **Too** comes before nouns. It expresses the **amount** or **number** of something.
- A quantifier must come between **too** and the noun (*much, many, little, few*).
- We use **much** and **little** before **uncountable** nouns.
- We use **many** and **few** before **countable** nouns.



I have **too much work** to do.

There is **too little** light. I can't see!





## **Too + quantifier + noun**



- **Too much** or **too many** means there is **more than you want** of something.
- **Too little** or **too few** means there is **not enough** of something.



There is **too much plastic** in our oceans.  
There are **too few people** doing something about it.



## Too with adjectives and adverbs

- **Too** goes **before** adjectives and adverbs.
- It **expresses** that there is “**more**” of the adjective or verb than we **want**.
- It means the **effects** or **consequences** are more than needed or desired.

### Too

Summer in Australia is too hot.

Winter in England is too long and cold.

She cycles too slowly.

Travelling around the world is too expensive.

He works too hard.





## Using *too*

Fill the gaps in the sentences with the options below.  
You can use each option more than once.

too much

too little

too few

too

too many

1. I am not \_\_\_\_\_ interested in politics.
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ mistakes in this document. We can't publish it.
3. Shaun ate \_\_\_\_\_ at lunch and now he is hungry.
4. Our team has \_\_\_\_\_ women. It is almost all men.
5. We did \_\_\_\_\_ research before we released the new product. That is why it failed.
6. I have \_\_\_\_\_ responsibility in my job. It is very stressful.







Look at the cards below. Do you have *too few*, *too many*, or *enough* for a dinner party?





## Imagine you are going on holiday...

Where would you like to go? Where wouldn't you like to go?  
Use phrases with *enough* and *too* from the lesson to explain your choices.

☐ Austria  
☐ England  
☐ USA  
☐ Thailand  
☐ Australia  
☐ China  
☐ Switzerland  
☐ Ireland  
☐ Any other country!



- There are too few...
- I don't know enough about...
- It isn't warm enough in....
- It is too far away...
- I have been there too many times...







## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

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no

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## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again



## Answer key 1/2

### Activity p. 9

2. We made **enough** money last year.
3. I don't get **enough** exercise.
4. My husband doesn't read **enough**.
5. I already own **enough** clothes.

### Activity p. 10 – possible answers

1. I have **enough** annual leave to fly to Greece next month.
2. There is **enough** space in the office for everyone to work.
3. Have you got **enough** energy to finish the race?
4. There aren't **enough** people training as nurses to fill all the jobs.

### Activity p. 12 – possible answers

1. No, I've played **enough**.
2. Yes, I haven't seen **enough**.
3. No, we have **enough**.
4. No, I haven't saved up **enough**.



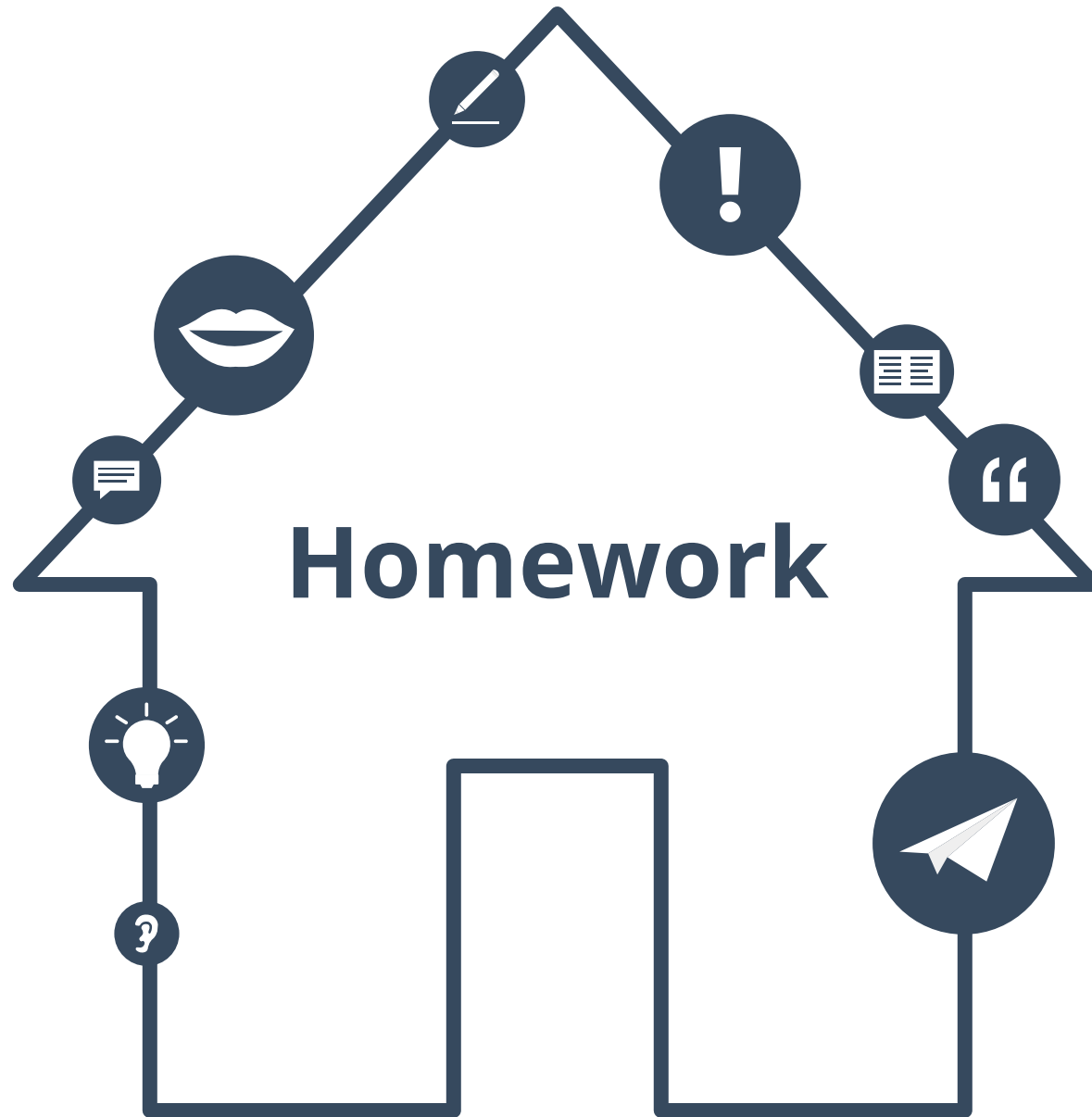
## Answer key 2/2

### Activity p. 22

1. too 2. too many 3. too little 4. too little 5. too few 6. too much

### Activity p. 15

1. I have had **enough meetings** already today.
2. You aren't **ambitious enough**.
3. It looks **nice enough**.
4. Have we ordered **enough starters**?
5. I don't think I am **adventurous enough**.





## Homework

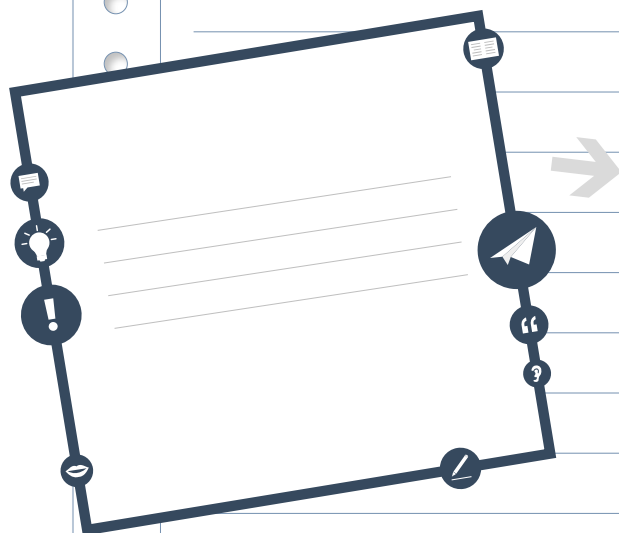
Using these words describe your job in a paragraph.  
For example: do you work too many hours or too few?





## Text at the beginning

**Find examples of  
the grammar topic of this lesson.  
Write them down.**





## Homework answer key

### Homework Activity p. 31 Example answers:

I work too much and I am always late home for dinner. My partner says I don't spend enough time with her. I earn enough money to pay my bills and go on holidays every year, but not enough to live the way I want to. I spend too much time dealing with customer complaints in my job and not enough time creating the products I want to sell. In the future, I want to spend fewer hours in the office and more hours creating. One can never be too creative.





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