

EXPRESSING NUMBERS IN ENGLISH

Cardinal numbers from 1 through 1,000,000

1	one	11	eleven	21	twenty-one	31	thirty-first
2	two	12	twelve	22	twenty-two	40	forty
3	three	13	thirteen	23	twenty-three	50	fifty
4	four	14	fourteen	24	twenty-four	60	sixty
5	five	15	fifteen	25	twenty-five	70	seventy
6	six	16	sixteen	26	twenty-six	80	eighty
7	seven	17	seventeen	27	twenty-seven	90	ninety
8	eight	18	eighteen	28	twenty-eight	100	a/one hundred
9	nine	19	nineteen	29	twenty-nine	1,000	a/one thousand
10	ten	20	twenty	30	thirty	1,000,000	a/one million

– If a number is in the range 21 to 29, and the second digit is not zero, we should write the number as two words separated by a hyphen:

25 twenty-five

57 fifty-seven

89 eight-nine

– Numbers over 100 are generally written in figures. If you want to say them aloud or want to write them in words rather than figures you put 'and' in front of the number expressed by the last two figures. For example:

203 two hundred and three (AmE: two hundred three)

622 six hundred and twenty-two (AmE: six hundred twenty-two)

Remember: The British use 'and' before tens and ones but the Americans usually leave the 'and' out.

– Numbers between 1000 and 1,000,000 are usually said or written in words as:

- 1,803 one thousand, eight hundred and three
- 1,963 one thousand, nine hundred and sixty-three
- 2,840 two thousand, eight hundred and forty







Notice that hundred, thousand, etc. is NOT followed by an 's': *two hundred NOT two hundreds*. Four-figure numbers ending in 00 can also be said or written as a number of hundreds. For example, 1800 can be said or written as 'eight hundred'.

- **Saying years.** We normally say a year in two parts. In the case of years ending in '00', we say the second part in 'hundred':

- 1058 ten fifty-eight
- 1706 seventeen hundred and six (or 'seventeen oh six')
- 1865 eighteen sixty-five
- 1900 nineteen hundred

There are two ways of saying years ending in '01' to '09' before 2000. For example: 1901 can be said as 'nineteen oh one' or 'nineteen hundred and one'

The year 2000 is read 'two thousand', 2006 'two thousand and six' (AmE: two thousand six). Post-2010 dates are often said as normal (2010 would be 'twenty ten').

Ways of expressing the number 0					
					
Sports	Tennis	Temperature	Mathematics	Telephone	Flights
0 = nil	0 = love	0 = zero	0 = nought	0 = oh	0 = oh

Note:

We use zero to express some numerical values such as temperatures, taxes and interest rates.

We can pronounce '0' like the letter 'o', when we are reading out numbers figure by figure (e.g. telephone number, credit card number, etc.)

Decimals. Read decimals as the given number point XYZ

- 2.36. two point three six

- **0.5** nought point five (AmE: zero point five)
- **0.75** nought point seven five (AmE: zero point seven five)

Percentages. Read percentages as the number followed by 'per cent'

37% thirty seven per cent

Note: The article is not written before the percentages: 'A virus killed ~~the~~ 5 % of the population' = A virus killed five per cent of the population'

Writing full stops and commas in numbers

Use a full stop (.) to separate the main part of a number from the decimal part. **3.062** means 'three point nought six two'.

Say point to refer to the full stop. You can use a comma (,) in large numbers to separate the hundreds, thousands, and millions. **3,062** means 'three thousand and sixty two'. In British English, spaces are sometimes used instead of commas (3 062).

Ordinal numbers from 1 through 1,000,000

1st	first	11th	eleventh	21st	twenty-first	31st	thirty-first
2nd	second	12th	twelfth	22nd	twenty-second	40th	fortieth
3rd	third	13th	thirteenth	23rd	twenty-third	50th	fiftieth
4th	fourth	14th	fourteenth	24th	twenty-fourth	60th	sixtieth
5th	fifth	15th	fifteenth	25th	twenty-fifth	70th	seventieth
6th	sixth	16th	sixteenth	26th	twenty-sixth	80th	eightieth
7th	seventh	17th	seventeenth	27th	twenty-seventh	90th	ninetieth
8th	eighth	18th	eighteenth	28th	twenty-eighth	100th	a/one hundredth
9th	ninth	19th	nineteenth	29th	twenty-ninth	1,000th	a/one thousandth
10th	tenth	20th	twentieth	30th	thirtieth	1,000,000th	a/one millionth