

At home

There is a garden in the back yard.



a house



my home



a garden



a yard



a door



a hallway



a floor



a ceiling



a wall



a window

1 Use the vocabulary list to find the right word.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) a building where a family can live
..... | f) a long passage inside a building
..... |
| b) a structure that separates one area from another
..... | g) a piece of wood that opens and shuts so that people can enter or leave a room
..... |
| c) an outdoor area next to a house, covered by grass
..... | h) an opening in a wall that usually contains a sheet of glass
..... |
| d) ground where plants are grown, like flowers or vegetables
..... | i) the part of a room on which you walk
..... |
| e) the place where a person lives
..... | j) the surface at the top of a room
..... |

Vocabulary tip! A **front yard** is the land between the street and the front of the house. The area behind the house, usually more private, is the **backyard** (no space).



Review the vocabulary for *Describing objects*. (You saw this in Unit A1-04.)

small	big	short	long	slow
beautiful	ugly	clean	dirty	fast
the same	different	old	new	important

Rooms

There is a bookcase in the living room.



a living room



a bathroom



a toilet



a sink



a shower



a dining room



a table



a kitchen



a refrigerator



a bed



an office



a desk



a bookcase



a chair



a bedroom

2 Use the vocabulary list to find the right word.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>a) a room in a house for general family use
.....</p> <p>b) a large bowl used for getting rid of bodily waste and then flushed with water
.....</p> <p>c) a piece of furniture that people sleep on
.....</p> <p>d) a room where a person works at a desk
.....</p> <p>e) a room used for sleeping</p> <p>f) a room with a sink, toilet and usually a bathtub or shower</p> <p>g) a wide bowl that has a faucet for water and a drain at the bottom</p> <p>h) a piece of furniture with shelves to hold books
.....</p> | <p>i) a bath in which water is sprayed on the body from above</p> <p>j) a room that is used for eating meals
.....</p> <p>k) a piece of furniture that has a flat top and usually four legs</p> <p>l) a piece of furniture that is like a table and often has drawers</p> <p>m) a room in which food is cooked
.....</p> <p>n) a seat for one person that usually has four legs
.....</p> <p>o) a device used to keep food and drinks cold
.....</p> |
|--|--|

There is..., there are...

There is a shower in the bathroom.

To say that something or somebody exists, we use **there is** for one thing and **there are** for two or more. For this verb, we use a lot of contractions, like **there's** and **there isn't**.

+

Present

There is a table in the kitchen.
There's a table in the kitchen.
There are some chairs in the kitchen.

Past

There was a desk in the office.
There were some chairs in the office.

-

There isn't a table in the kitchen.
There aren't any chairs in the kitchen.

There wasn't a desk in the office.
There weren't any chairs in the office.

?

Is there a table in the kitchen?
Are there any chairs in the kitchen?

Was there a desk in the office?
Were there any chairs in the office?

Quick tips!

There is, there are often come before **a/an, some, much, a lot of** and **any**.

In my kitchen, there's a table, but there aren't a lot of chairs or any windows.



Let's chat! Ask your tutor to describe one house or apartment that they know. They use "there is/there are" and the vocabulary from the two lists. They start with a description of the outside. Then, they go inside and describe the main hallways, the rooms, what there is in the room, etc. Finally, your tutor asks you to describe a house or apartment, and it's your turn!



3 Use words from the three boxes to make sentences.

There's a	bed chair desk door wall	in the garden in the house
There isn't a	bathroom toilet shower sink	in the neighbourhood at home
There are a lot of	office house table window	in the bathroom in the bedroom
There aren't many	bookcase hallway refrigerator	in the dining room in the kitchen
There aren't any	yard bedroom ceiling floor	in the living room in the yard
There wasn't a	house television	at home in 1600
There weren't any		

▶ *There are a lot of houses in the neighbourhood.*

▶ *There wasn't a toilet in the house in 1600.*

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)
- g)
- h)
- i)
- j)

4 Write questions in the present or past with there is/there are/there was/there weren't.

- ▶ a table in the dining room (present) *Is there a table in the dining room?*
- a) many chairs in the office (present)
- b) a lot of food in the refrigerator (present)
- c) a window in the living room (present)
- d) any flowers in the garden (present)
- e) a lot of desks in the classroom (past)
- f) a sink in the kitchen (past)
- g) a door in the house (past)
- h) any toilets in the bathrooms (past)

Spin the pen! Look around you, and then close your eyes. Your tutor takes a pen, puts it on the table, and spins it. Ask your tutor, "What do you see there?" Your tutor uses "there is/there are" to describe what they see there. They can also describe what is AROUND there. "There is a table, and next to the table, there are two chairs. There is a wall behind the table, with a poster." With your finger, point in the direction you think the pen is pointing, then open your eyes to check. Then, switch roles: Your tutor closes their eyes and spins the pen. Do this twice each.



Present progressive: Form

I am working with my tutor.

+	-	?
I am working with my tutor. You are tutoring . He is running . She is reading . It is making a noise. We are chatting . They are dancing .	I am not playing video games. You are not studying . He is not walking . She is not writing . It is not moving . We are not sitting quietly. They are not singing .	Am I doing well? Are you working ? Is he jogging ? Is she doing homework? Is it dying ? Are we having fun? Are they listening to music?

Short forms

She's not reading, she's writing.

+	-	-
I' m learning English. You' re tutoring. He' s running. She' s reading. It' s making a noise. We' re chatting. They' re dancing.	I' m not playing video games. You' re not studying. He' s not walking. She' s not writing. It' s not moving. We' re not sitting quietly. They' re not singing.	I' m not playing video games. You aren't studying. He isn't walking. She isn't writing. It isn't moving. We aren't sitting quietly. They aren't singing.

5 Write present progressive sentences. You can use long or short forms.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ▶ you to read a book
<i>You are reading a book.</i> | d) Jacob ∅ to enjoy this activity |
| ▶ he ∅ to go to school this morning
<i>He isn't going to school this morning.</i> | e) Michael ∅ to listen to his girlfriend |
| a) We to cook dinner now | f) It to rain outside |
| b) Eliana ∅ to work this week | g) I ∅ to eat lunch now |
| c) You to learn English | h) The class to start now |

Quick tip! How to write the **-ing** form.

- Add **-ing** to the verb.
 - Verbs ending in **-e**, drop the **-e** and add **-ing**
 - **-ie** changes to **-y**
 - Sometimes, for short words, the final consonant is doubled.
- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| talk → talking | work → working |
| take → taking | come → coming |
| tie → tying | die → dying |
| | run → running |



We will not study this rule, so if you aren't sure if you should double the last letter, check online.

Describing current actions

Leah is working at the moment.

We use the *present progressive* to say that something is happening **now**.

Leah is working at the moment.
Owen is not enjoying this party.

But do not use it to discuss general facts, for example, things that happen "every day."

Leah works every day.
Owen usually enjoys parties.

We can use the *present progressive* to describe the **current** weather:

It's raining again.
It's snowing outside.

Again, if you want to talk about weather in general, do not use the present progressive:

It rains a lot in the spring.
It snows every winter.

Interactive practice

- a) Choose a specific person that you know, like a close friend or a family member.
- b) Your tutor asks you two questions: "Where is he/she?" And "What is he/she doing, right now?" You answer the questions.

Then, it is your tutor's turn. Do two people each.

6 Change these verbs into the *-ing* form.

- ▶ balance *balancing*
- a) walk
- b) lie
- c) make
- d) sit
- e) have

Drawing game: One person describes, and the other person tries to draw.

- a) Using a cellphone, your tutor finds a movie trailer. They start watching it. You listen to the sound, but you don't watch.
- b) Your tutor describes a bit what is going on. "There are two kids, they are talking, etc."
- c) At some point, say "pause." Your tutor stops the video. They describe what is happening.
- d) You try to make a quick drawing of what is happening, using stick figures.
- e) Compare the finished drawing to the picture in the video.

Then, switch roles. Find a new video, you describe, and your tutor draws.



Unit review

There is/there are: "There is a garden."

Secret word: When it's my turn, I secretly choose a word from one of the vocabulary lists. Then, I describe this thing to you without saying the word. You try to guess what word I'm talking about. Then we switch. You can use the vocabulary list while playing. Play for a few minutes.



7 Correct the errors with *there is/there are*.

- ▶ There were a dog in my yard. *There was a dog in my yard.*
- a) There was many students in the classroom.
- b) There are a problem with the refrigerator.
- c) There was chairs around the table.
- d) There is a lot of houses in our neighbourhood.
- e) There were a kitchen down the hallway.
- f) There are a big family in that home.
- g) There's a phone call for you yesterday.

8 Make questions in the present progressive.

- ▶ you | listen | to her? *Are you listening to her?*
- a) it | rain?
- b) you | talk | to us?
- c) Jack | enjoy | the movie?
- d) they | study | English?
- e) I | go | too fast?
- f) you | wear | new shoes?
- g) Nova | work | today?

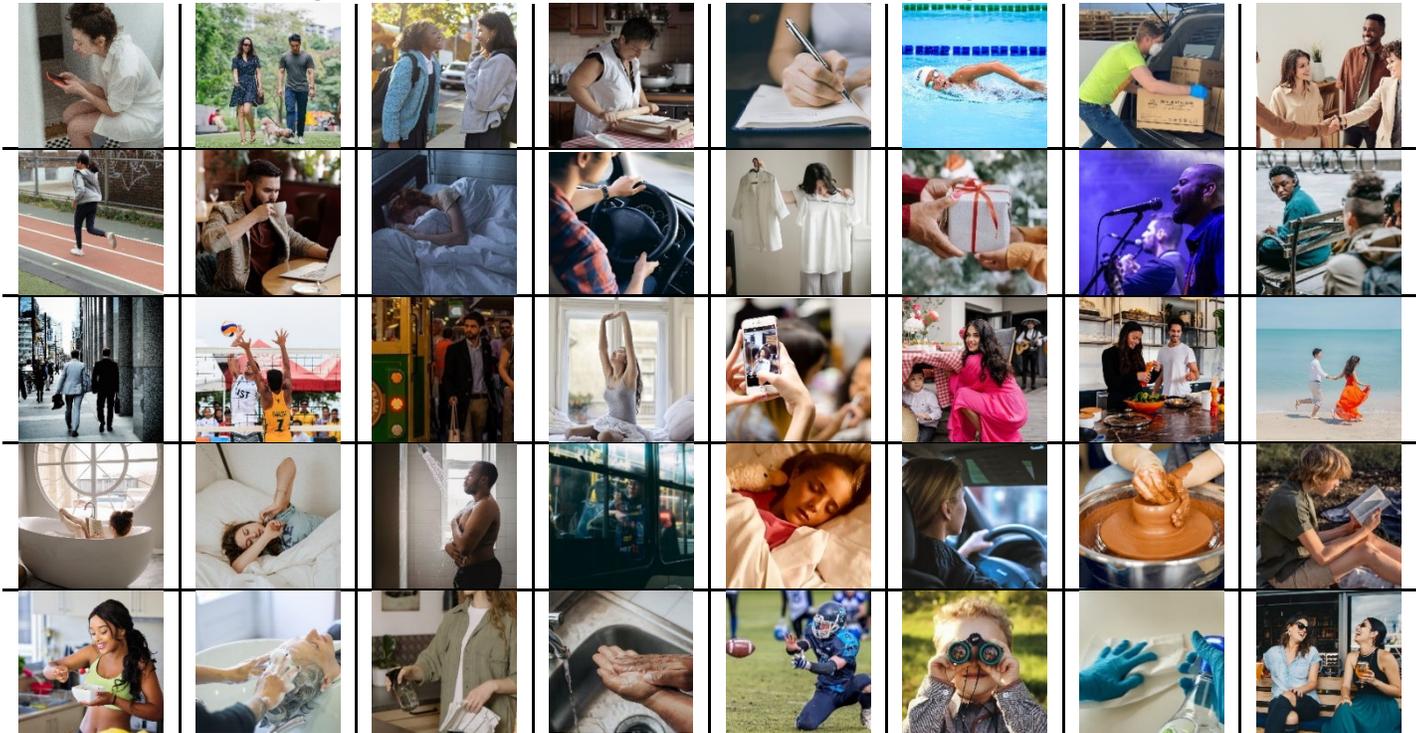
Review the vocabulary for *Habits*. (You saw this in Unit A1-03.)

to wake up	to get up	to eat	to drink	to go to the bathroom
to go to school	to go to work	to go home	to take the bus	to drive
to walk	to run	to play sports	to do the cleaning	to do the cooking
to wash up	to take a bath	to take a shower	to wash my hair	to go to bed

Review the vocabulary for *Actions for stories*. (You saw this in Unit A1-06.)

to find	to catch	to put sth down	to give	to make
to do the cleaning	to do the cooking	to sleep	to sing	to swim
to choose	to drive	to go out	to meet	to come
to hear	to see	to read	to write	to take a picture

Use this mosaic of images to play 'Who is it,' described on the next page.



Who is it?: When it's your turn, secretly choose a picture. Describe what you see in the picture. You can describe the people in it and **explain what they are doing**. The other person tries to guess what picture you are talking about. Every time they make a guess, if it's wrong, you must tell them more information, like, "No. Also, my person is alone." Do four each.



9 Finish the questions.

- ▶ 'They're watching a movie.' 'What movie are they watching?'
- a) 'Wyatt is playing a sport.' 'What sport
- b) 'I'm leaving early.' 'Why
- c) 'They're eating dinner.' 'What
- d) 'Charlie is reading a book.' 'What

Recommended homework

Choose one or more activities



Reading and watching. Use your phone's camera or a "QR Code scanner" to open these pages.



Watch a TV episode on CBC Gem. (It's free!) One good choice is *Schitt's Creek*.
<https://gem.cbc.ca/>



Read "My Family at Home," from Lingua.
<https://lingua.com/english/reading/my-family/>



Watch "Let's Learn English Around the House and Home," by Bob the Canadian.
<https://youtu.be/WHYMGNbPv2U>

Writing topic: Choose a house or apartment that you know and really like. Write a short paragraph that describes it. Use vocabulary from this unit and *there is/there are* as needed. As you describe the place, make sure you explain why you like it so much.



End of Unit A1-09.

Answers. ① A. a house B. a wall C. a yard D. a garden E. a home F. a hallway G. a door H. a window I. a floor J. a ceiling ② A. a living room B. a toilet C. a bed D. an office E. a bedroom F. a bathroom G. a sink H. a bookcase I. a shower J. a dining room K. a table L. a desk M. a kitchen N. a chair O. a refrigerator ③ **Answers will vary. Here are a few possibilities:** A. There are a lot of windows in the house. B. There is a television in the living room. C. There weren't any refrigerators in 1600. D. There aren't any chairs in the garden. E. There aren't many bathrooms in the house. F. etc. ④ A. Are there many chairs in the office? B. Is there a lot of food in the refrigerator? C. Is there a window in the living room? D. Are there any flowers in the garden? E. Were there a lot of desks in the classroom? F. Was there a sink in the kitchen? G. Was there a door in the house? H. Were there any toilets in the bathrooms? ⑤ A. are cooking B. isn't working C. are learning D. isn't enjoying E. isn't listening F. is raining G. am not eating H. is starting ⑥ A. walking B. lying C. making D. sitting E. having ⑦ A. There **were** many students in the classroom. B. There **is** a problem with the refrigerator. C. There **were** chairs around the table. D. There **are** a lot of houses in our neighbourhood. E. There **was** a kitchen down the hallway. F. There **is** a big family in the home. G. There **was** a phone call for you yesterday. ⑧ A. Is it raining? B. Are you talking to us? C. Is Jack enjoying the movie? D. Are they studying English? E. Am I going too fast? F. Are you wearing new shoes? G. Is Nova working today? ⑨ A. What sport is he playing? B. Why are you are leaving? C. What are they eating? D. What book is he reading?



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