

Unit 4

Grammar reference

The Grammar reference section presents in-depth information for each of the grammar charts in the Student Book. It can serve as a quick refresher on grammar, give you ideas for further exploiting the grammar charts, and help prepare you for student questions. Each Grammar reference item consists of two parts: an explanation and an example.

When preparing for class, review the information in the relevant Grammar reference section. Make note of any helpful information in the chart that you think your students need to know. Write down any examples you might want to put on the board. Be careful, however, not to overload your students with information—choose additional points carefully and sparingly.

Suggested procedures

- After students have read the grammar chart and completed Discovering grammar, introduce the grammar point you want to share with your students by writing the example on the board. Then ask questions about the example to help students figure out the rule for themselves. For example, for the first Grammar reference point from Unit 1, page 8:

(Explanation)	(Example)
The <i>be</i> verb (<i>am/is/are</i>) is usually used to give the name, location, or time of something. It is also used to describe something.	Name: I am Andy. Location: We are in Miami. Time: It is eight o'clock. Description: Miami is nice.

- Say *We usually use the be verb to talk about four things. I'm going to write four sentences on the board. What do we use the be verb to talk about in each?*
- Write the four example sentences on the board:
 - I am Andy.
 - We are in Miami.
 - It is eight o'clock.
 - Miami is nice.
- Ask *What do we use be to talk about in the first sentence? (a name) What do we use be to talk about in the second sentence? (a place or location) Elicit usages of be for all the sentences, writing Name, Location, Time, and Description on the board next to the appropriate sentences.*
- Summarize the function of the *be* verbs by saying *The be verb (am/is/are) is usually used to give the name, location, or time of something. It is also used to describe something.*
- Elicit one or two other examples for each usage of *be* by asking *What's another be sentence that gives a name? A location? A time? A description?*

Unit 4, page 36: <i>Can</i> for requests	
<i>Can</i> is used to make requests (usually in the near future).	Can you wait for me? Can I use your computer, please?
Requests begin with <i>Can</i> followed by a subject noun/pronoun and the base form of a verb; or with <i>Can</i> followed by a subject, the base form of a verb, and an object; or with <i>Can</i> followed by a subject, the base form of a verb, an object pronoun, and an indirect object.	<i>Can</i> + subject + verb Can she come? <i>Can</i> + subject + verb + object Can you please help me? <i>Can</i> + subject + verb + object + indirect object Can I ask you a question?
Affirmative answers to <i>Can</i> requests can vary.	Yes, you can. Sure, you can. OK. Of course.
Negative answers to <i>Can</i> requests can vary. Use contractions in informal conversation.	No, you can't. Sorry, but you can't. No, you cannot.

Unit 4, page 38: <i>When/What time/What day</i> + prepositions of time	
Questions of time beginning with <i>When, What time, What day</i> are followed by <i>be</i> (<i>am/is/are</i>).	<i>What days</i> are the games? <i>What time</i> is your test?
In spoken English and informal writing, contractions with <i>be</i> are commonly used in many information questions. However, they are discouraged in formal written English.	When's the class? <i>What</i> day's her birthday? <i>What</i> time's the party?
Use the preposition <i>on</i> to answer questions about specific days and dates.	<i>What day is the test?</i> It's on Monday. <i>When's her birthday?</i> On January 19th.
Use the preposition <i>at</i> to talk about a specific time of day.	<i>What time is dinner?</i> It's at 5:00.
Use the preposition <i>in</i> to answer questions about periods of time, such as months, seasons, years, and times in the future.	<i>When's Halloween?</i> It's in October. <i>When's the big dance?</i> It's in the spring. <i>When's the game?</i> It's in three weeks.