

Numbers and Dates

The words **hundred**, **thousand** and **million** do not take an 's' in the plural (e.g. *a thousand*, *five thousand*, *one hundred*, *two hundred*) except in the indefinite form: hundreds of people, thousands of flies.

A and one

The words **hundred**, **thousand** and **million** can be used in the singular with *a* or *one*. We use *one* in more formal situations as it is more precise than *a*.

Compare: I want to live for **a hundred** years.

The return flight cost exactly **one hundred** dollars.

Note that *a* is only used with *hundred*, *thousand* etc. at the **beginning** of a number:

122 **a** hundred and twenty-two

2,122 two thousand, **one** hundred and twenty-two

A thousand and *a million* are used for 'round numbers', for example 1,000 or 1,000,000, and we can say *a thousand* before *and*, but we say *one thousand* / *one million* when the number that follows is not preceded by *and*:

1,000 **a** thousand

1,069 **a** thousand **and** sixty-nine

1,200 **one** thousand, two hundred (not **a** thousand, two hundred)

1,561,211 **one** million, five hundred and sixty-one thousand, two hundred and eleven

It is also possible to use **one** (1,000 - **one** thousand / 1,069 - **one** thousand and sixty-nine) if we want to lend emphasis to the number.

In British English, after the word *hundred* the word **and** is used before the numbers that follow (tens and units). If the number is in the thousands, but there is no hundred before the last figures, the word **and** follows the word *thousand*.

511 five hundred **and** eleven

3,699 three thousand, six hundred **and** ninety-nine

62,021 sixty-two thousand **and** twenty-one

Money

€120 **a** / **one** hundred and twenty euros

£99.95 ninety-nine ninety-five / ninety-nine pounds **and** ninety-five pence

\$2 billion two billion dollars (not 'billions of')

[Digitare qui]

Arithmetic

+ plus – minus x times ÷ divided by = equals

Decimals - the numbers after the decimal point are pronounced one digit at a time.

16.53 sixteen **point** five three

8.027 eight **point O** two seven

Fractions

$1\frac{1}{2}$ – one **and a** half

$1\frac{3}{4}$ – one **and** three quarters

$1\frac{1}{4}$ – one **and a** quarter

$7\frac{7}{8}$ – seven **and** seven eighths

Different ways of saying ‘0’

0.64 **nought** point six four (BrE) **zero** (AmE)

055-8311677 **O** double five, eight three double one, six double seven (BrE) **zero** (AmE)

In a **countdown**, and in **measurements** (e.g. of temperatures), **0** is usually **zero**.

In tennis, table tennis and similar games the word **love** is used.

40 - 0 = 40 **love** Andy Murray is winning forty **love**.

In other sports such as rugby and football the word is **nil**.

3 - 0 = three **nil** Chelsea won three **nil** against Arsenal.

Years – the preposition before years is **in**.

In 1960 **In** nineteen sixty

In 1053 **In** ten fifty-three

In 1700 **In** seventeen hundred

In 1701 **In** seventeen **O** one

In 2000 **In** the year two thousand

In 2013 **In** two thousand **and** thirteen

BC Before Christ: usually pronounced BC

BCE Before Common / Current / Christian Era, usually pronounced BCE

CE Common / Current / Christian Era, usually pronounced CE

AD Anno Domini: usually pronounced AD

Dates – the preposition before dates is **on**.

On 21st October or **On the** twenty-first **of** October or **On** October **(the)** twenty-first

On 25th April or **On the** twenty-fifth **of** April or **On** April **(the)** twenty-fifth