

1.1

I WAS LIKE

1. I saw Bob yesterday **and I was like**, “Hey Bob, how’s life?”

USE **AND I WAS LIKE + DIRECT SPEECH** TO REPORT CONVERSATIONS

2. I saw a guy stealing my banana **and I was like**, “wtf”

USE **AND I WAS LIKE + YOUR THOUGHTS** TO REPORT WHAT YOU WERE THINKING

*this is more common than using say/tell because you don’t need to use reported speech

*always say **AND** - I saw Jacob **and** I was like, “hey”

*if you want to know what the other person said next, ask, “and what was he like?”

1.2

HAVE SOMETHING DONE

I had my car fixed

NECHAL JSEM SI OPRAVIT AUTO

I will have my assistant send you the details

NECHÁM SVOJI ASISTENTKU, ABY VÁM POSLALA DETAILY

*have [smth] done -> you told/paid/ordered someone to do something, but we don’t care who

*have [smb] do smth -> we’re saying who we told/paid/ordered to do something

*can use in **all tenses**, and even **imperatives** (have your team prepare a presentation)

1.3

FIRST, NEXT & LAST

When did you **first** meet Jacob?

USE **FIRST** AS AN ADVERB - THIS IS FASTER THAN SAYING **THE FIRST TIME**

When did you **last** go to the gym?

USE **LAST** AS AN ADVERB - THIS IS FASTER THAN SAYING **THE LAST TIME**

When are you **next** going to the gym?

USE **NEXT** AS AN ADVERB - THIS IS FASTER THAN SAYING **THE NEXT TIME**

1.4

I CAN TELL

I can tell that you’re in a bad mood

I CAN TELL MEANS SOMETHING IS CLEAR AND OBVIOUS JUST FROM LOOKING AT IT

I could tell that something was wrong

IN THE PAST **CAN** BECOMES **COULD**

*if you say “I can’t tell if he’s gay” it means it’s not clear, maybe he is, maybe he isn’t

*nice sentence: “How could you tell that I was sad?” - “I could just tell!”

2.1

WORTH: PART 1

it

is worth

it

WAS/WILL BE/WOULD BE/WOULD HAVE BEEN

this lesson

the money

it

coming to this lesson

it

us coming to this lesson

2.2

WORTH: PART 2

My phone cost €600 when I bought it

TO COST = THE ORIGINAL PRICE

Now my phone is worth €100

TO BE WORTH = THE CURRENT VALUE

*priceless means it has super high value; worthless means it has no value

2.3

JUST

I just need to get some milk

USE **JUST** TO SOUND MORE NATIVE. IN THIS CASE MEANS ‘SIMPLY’

He just came over to me and asked me out!

WITHOUT **JUST** THIS SENTENCE WOULD SOUND A BIT WEIRD

*just is a magical filler word that makes you sound way more native - try to use it a lot!

2.4

DO YOU MIND

Do you mind if I open the window

USE **DO YOU MIND + IF** TO CHECK IF IT’S OKAY TO DO SOMETHING

Do you mind opening the window

USE **DO YOU MIND + ING** TO ASK OTHER PEOPLE TO DO SOMETHING

*possible answers: no, go ahead (for actions); no, no problem; no, I don’t mind

*use **would you mind** to sound more polite; works with both types of sentence

3.1

GET + ADJECTIVE

NOT MARRIED

I GOT MARRIED

MARRIED

NOT SLEEPY

I’M GETTING SLEEPY, TIME FOR BED!

SLEEPY

NOT ARRESTED

MY BROTHER GOT ARRESTED

ARRESTED

NOT FIRED

YOU WILL GET FIRED IF YOU DO THAT

FIRED

*for changes with your head use go (go crazy, go bald, go blind, go deaf, go red)

3.2

IT WAS SAD + ING

It’s boring doing the same grammar every lesson

*step 1: start a sentence with it’s boring, it’s amazing, it’s sad, it’s scary etc

*step 2: then explain what is the “it”

*step 3: the “it” must be a noun, so use the noun form of the verb with -ING

*that gives us the structure **it’s boring/amazing/nice/sad + ING**

3.3

USED TO

I am used to living alone

TO BE USED TO + ING | WHAT IS A NORMAL REGULAR THING FOR US

I got used to living alone

GET USED TO + ING | TO BECOME USED TO SOMETHING

I used to live alone

USED TO + BARE INFINITIVE | SOMETHING YOU DID A LOT IN THE PAST, NOT ANYMORE

3.4

WOULD

When I was in uni, I would go out every night

WE CAN ALSO USE ‘WOULD’ IN THE MEANING OF ‘USED TO’, SAYING WHAT WERE OUR PAST HABITS

We would always go there after work

THIS WAS OUR HABIT, WHAT WE DID ALL THE TIME

*would (unlike ‘used to’) can also be used for short-term habits that lasted just a week

*would is only used for **actions**; **used to** is used for **actions and states** (I used to live there)

4.1

WE WENT THERE WITH

~~We went there with my girlfriend~~

THIS SOUNDS LIKE THREE PEOPLE: YOU, SOMEONE ELSE, AND YOUR GIRLFRIEND

Me and my girlfriend went there

NOW IT IS CLEAR THERE ARE ONLY TWO PEOPLE; THIS IS TECHNICALLY BAD GRAMMAR BUT VERY USED

My girlfriend and I went there

THIS IS ‘CORRECT ENGLISH’ BUT LESS COMMON THAN ‘ME AND MY GIRLFRIEND’

4.2

HAVE DONE

I’m grateful to have had such a good education

USE **HAVE + 3RD FORM** WHEN THE SECOND PART OF THE CLAUSE IS IN THE PAST

I don’t remember having said that

I DON’T REMEMBER NOW. SAYING IT WAS IN THE PAST.

*remember is followed by -ING, which is why we say having + 3rd form

*you can also say: **having seen** all the evidence, we have decided to fire you

*this means seeing all the evidence happened before, and it sounds very nice

4.3

ONE OF MY FRIENDS

One of my friend told me about it

One of my friends told me about it

ONE OF = ONE OF A LARGER GROUP, THEREFORE USE PLURAL

*always follow one of with something plural (one of my favourite movies)

4.4

IN TERMS OF/WISE | CO SE TÝČE

1. In terms of design, they're really nice

CO SE TÝČE DESIGNU | GOOD STANDARD OPTION, ESPECIALLY FOR EMAILS

2. Design-wise, they're really nice

CO SE TÝČE DESIGNU | THE BEST OPTION FOR INFORMAL TALKING

3. As far as design is concerned, they're really nice

CO SE TÝČE DESIGNU | GREAT FORMAL OPTION FOR BUSINESS AND EMAILS

*you can say as far as I am concerned, but you can't say in terms of me or me-wise

5.1

WHAT IS CRAZY IS

~~Crazy is~~ that she didn't pay!

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO START A SENTENCE WITH AN ADJECTIVE

What's crazy is that she didn't pay!

WE MUST START WITH A SUBJECT 'WHAT', THEN VERB 'IS', THEN YOUR ADJECTIVE

What was crazy [about him] was that he...

YOU CAN GIVE MORE DETAILS BY SAYING 'ABOUT WHAT'

5.2

WITHOUT + ING

You can't walk through Prague without seeing lots of tourists

WITHOUT + ING

How am I supposed to get inside without him noticing?

PUT EXTRA PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE

*the Czech aniž bych translates to without + ING

5.3

HELP, MAKE & LET

I helped him find a job

HELP + BARE INFINITIVE

He made me apologise

MAKE + BARE INFINITIVE (IN THE MEANING OF 'TO FORCE')

He let me use his phone

LET + BARE INFINITIVE

*help, make & let are all followed by bare infinitive -> this is just a strange exception!

5.4

SAY & TELL

John told me he's leaving

TELL IS ALWAYS TO A PERSON

John said that he's leaving

SAY IS WITHOUT A PERSON

*you can also say say to someone - but don't worry about that

6.1

BY & UNTIL

Please send me the documents until Friday

THIS MAKES NO SENSE | YOU CANNOT BE CONTINUOUSLY SENDING DOCUMENTS

Please send me the documents by Friday

BY = THE DEADLINE | THE LATEST TIME YOU CAN DO SOMETHING

I'm looking after my sister until Friday

UNTIL = HOW LONG A CONTINUING SITUATION OR ACTION CONTINUES

*use by the time + present to connect the deadline with an action (by the time he gets back)

6.2

IN A MOOD

1. I'm in a good mood

USE I'M IN A ___ MOOD TO TALK ABOUT BASIC MOODS

2. That lesson put me in a great mood

USE ___ PUT ME IN A ___ MOOD TO SAY THE CAUSE OF YOUR MOOD

3. I'm in the mood for learning English

USE I'M IN THE MOOD FOR TO SAY WHAT YOU FEEL LIKE DOING OR EATING

6.3

PROBLEMS + ING

I have a problem with sleeping

ALWAYS SAY I HAVE PROBLEMS + ING AND NEVER SAY WITH

I have problems sleeping

PROBLEMS + ING | PRESENT SIMPLE BECAUSE REPEATING PROBLEM

I'm having problems hearing you

PROBLEMS + ING | PRESENT CONTINUOUS BECAUSE TEMPORARY SITUATION

*you can say I have problems with + noun (e.g. I'm having problems with my laptop)

6.4

TAKE & LAST

It takes me 20mins to get ready in the morning

TAKE = ACTIONS AND TRANSPORT

The lesson lasts one hour

LAST = THE DURATION OF SOMETHING

Milk can last about one week in the fridge

LAST = HOW LONG SOMETHING CAN 'SURVIVE'

*to say how long something will "survive with you" use last me (that wine should last me a while)

7.1

THAT MAKES ME SAD

It made me really angry

USE 'MAKE ME' TO SAY SOMETHING CAUSED YOU TO FEEL THAT WAY

You made me look really stupid!

YOU CAUSED ME TO LOOK STUPID

This picture always makes me remember the good times

IT CAUSES ME TO REMEMBER

7.2

EXPECT

I expected that the movie would be better

DON'T SAY 'EXPECT THAT [SOMETHING] WOULD HAPPEN'

I expected the movie to be better

USE: EXPECT [SMB/SMTH] + INFINITIVE

We didn't expect him to come to the party

EXPECT [SMB/SMTH] + INFINITIVE

7.3

IT IS WRITTEN

It is written on that sign to not smoke here

IN CZECH YOU SAY LITERALLY "IT IS WRITTEN"

That sign says to not smoke here

IN ENGLISH, WHEN SOMETHING IS WRITTEN WE SAY 'IT SAYS'

7.4

AS...AS

I'm not as tall as him

ALWAYS USE 'AS...AS' WHEN COMPARING; NEVER SAY 'SO...AS'

I don't have as many friends as him

WHEN COMPARING AMOUNTS, USE 'AS MANY/MUCH ___ AS'

Twitter isn't as big a company as Apple

WHEN YOU HAVE AN ADJECTIVE AND NOUN, PUT A IN THE MIDDLE OF THEM

8.1

HOW TO SAY YOU LIKE SOMETHING

1. I'm into rap music

BUT IF YOU SAY I'M INTO YOU IT MEANS YOU LIKE THEM ROMANTICALLY

2. I'm a fan of rap music

OFTEN USED WITH MUSIC AND SPORTS

3. I'm all about rap music

GOOD TO SAY WHAT YOU'RE REALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT

8.2

SO, SUCH & THAT

He's so nice | He's not that nice

SO + ADJECTIVE

He's such a nice guy | He's not that nice a guy

SUCH + NOUN

*in negative sentences so and such become that

*in a negative such sentence, the a moves to in-between the adjective and noun

*this also happens here: how big a house do you want & it's too big a house for us

8.3

WHAT A DAY

What a day!

TO JE ALE DEN!

What a hottie!

TO JE ALE KOČKA!

*to je ale in Czech translates to what a in English

8.4

SHE CALLED THAT

She called that she'll be late

She called to let us know that she'll be late

COMMUNICATION VERBS (TO CALL, EMAIL, MESSAGE) MUST BE FOLLOWED BY A VERB

*whenever you say she called/emailed/messaged follow with to say/to tell me/to let me know

9.1

WORTH: PART 3

[visualisation] worth of [the object]

A suitcase

cocaine

Two weeks

emails

£500

whiskey

*this is used to give a general idea about the amount

9.2

WORTH: PART 4

1. It was well worth going there

WELL WORTH = REALLY WORTH

2. That story is definitely newsworthy!

-WORTHY MEANS 'GOOD ENOUGH FOR' | ROADWORTHY, INSTAGRAM-WORTHY

3. How can we make our service worth it for clients?

TO MAKE SOMETHING WORTH IT = REACH THE POINT WHERE IT BECOMES WORTH IT

9.3

SOMEONE IS LAZY

Someone is lazy and someone is hard-working

THIS WOULD MEAN LITERALLY ONE PERSON IS LAZY, AND ONE IS HARD-WORKING

Some people are lazy and some people are hard-working

TO TALK ABOUT PEOPLE IN GENERAL USE SOME PEOPLE

*it's common Czenglish to say someone instead of some people, as it's the same word in Czech

9.4

GIVE, PUT & TAKE

I gave Jacob the pen

GIVE IS FROM ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER PERSON

I put the pen on the table

YOU CANNOT GIVE THE PEN TO THE TABLE BECAUSE THE TABLE ISN'T A PERSON

I took the pen off the table

THE OPPOSITE OF PUT ON IS TAKE OFF | PUT AND TAKE ARE OPPOSITES

*put on/take off is for flat surfaces and clothes; put in/take out is when it goes inside something

10.1

THERE'S ONLY SO

There's only so much you can do

THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH YOU CAN DO

There's only so long I can do this job

THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW LONG I CAN DO THIS JOB

*there's only so is just a more natural way to say there's a limit to how

10.2

ONCE A WEEK

I go to the gym once a week

WHEN THE TIME IS SINGULAR USE A | ONCE A MONTH, TWICE A YEAR

I go to the gym once every three weeks

WHEN IT'S PLURAL USE EVERY

I go to the gym every other week

WHEN IT'S 'ONE YES, ONE NO' USE EVERY OTHER

10.3

GO & COME

1. Come towards and go away

WITH PHYSICAL MOVEMENT, THINGS COME TOWARDS US OR GO AWAY FROM US

2. If you're in the place, use come

WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME TO PARIS? (THIS MEANS THE PERSON IS IN PARIS)

3. For invitations always use come

THIS OVERRIDES ALL PREVIOUS RULES, FOR ALL INVITATIONS USE COME

10.4

THE BIGGER THE BETTER

The older I get, the wiser I am

ČÍM JSEM STARŠÍ, TÍM JSEM MOUDŘEJŠÍ

The more I learn Spanish, the less I feel I understand

ČÍM VÍCE SE UČÍM ŠPANĚLSKY, TÍM MÉNĚ MÁM POCIT, ŽE ROZUMÍM

*čím, tím sentences translate to the, the sentences in English

11.1

10-HOUR-FLIGHT

It's a ten-hours flight

It's a ten-hour flight

FOR COMPOUND ADJECTIVES WITH NUMBERS NEVER USE PLURAL

I have a three-week-old baby

YOU CAN'T SAY THREE-WEEKS-OLD

*a compound adjective just means an adjective made of more than one word

11.2

IF & WHEN

I will call you if we land

THIS MEANS YOU'RE NOT 100% SURE YOU WILL LAND, JUST MAYBE

I will call you when we land

THIS MEANS YOU FEEL 100% SURE YOU WILL LAND

*in Czech, both if and when translate to když (in certain circumstances)

11.3

FROM, SINCE & AS OF

Since yesterday

USE SINCE FOR THE PAST | ALWAYS WITH PRESENT PERFECT

From tomorrow

USE FROM FOR THE FUTURE

As of right now

AS OF IS MAGICAL - YOU CAN USE IT FOR PAST, FUTURE OR RIGHT NOW

*use from...to to connect two times (from 2014 to 2018)

11.4

HE/SHE = THEY

Someone left their wallet in the car

WHEN WE DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A HE/SHE WE USE THEY - EVEN THOUGH WE MEAN ONE PERSON!

If someone calls give them my number

WE DON'T KNOW IF IT WILL BE A MAN OR WOMAN, SO WE USE THEM

12.1

ME TOO

Ahhh I love Jacob!! - "Me too!"

USE ME TOO TO AGREE WITH A POSITIVE SENTENCE

Ahhh I hate Jacob!! - "Me too!"

THIS IS STILL POSITIVE SENTENCE STRUCTURE, SO USE ME TOO TO AGREE

I don't like Jacob - "Me neither!"

THIS IS NEGATIVE SENTENCE STRUCTURE | USE ME NEITHER TO AGREE

*you can say me neither or I don't like Jacob either

12.2

ANOTHER & OTHER

I have another lesson

ANOTHER = ONE MORE

I have some other lessons | I don't have any other lessons

OTHER = PLURAL (USUALLY WITH SOME OR ANY)

Where are the other students?

THE OTHER = EVERYONE KNOWS WHICH ONES YOU'RE SPEAKING OF

12.3

WE WILL SEE

We will see what will happen

We will see what happens

WE CANNOT HAVE TWO 'WILLS' IN ONE CLAUSE, SECOND VERB SHOULD BE PRESENT

*therefore always say we will see + present

12.4

HAVE & HAVE GOT

HAVE

I have a job

I don't have a job

Do you have a job?

I have to go

HAVE GOT

I've got a job

I haven't got a job

Have you got a job?

I have got to go

*have and have got are only interchangeable in the present tense

13.1

MY FRIEND

I went out for dinner with my friend

MY FEELS THE SAME AS THE, MEANING WE SHOULD ALREADY KNOW WHICH FRIEND

I went out for dinner with a friend of mine

IF THE LISTENER DOESN'T KNOW THE PERSON, USE A __ OF MINE

*it's fine to say my wife, my teacher etc because you only have one, so we know which one

13.2

HAVE & BE

BAD

I have 20 years

I have a birthday tomorrow

This table has 20kg

You have right

GOOD

I am 20

It is my birthday tomorrow

This table is 20kg

You are right

*in English we use to be for all measurements

13.3

WHOLE & ALL

Lenka ate the whole cake!

USE THE WHOLE FOR SINGULAR THINGS

Lenka ate all the cakes

USE ALL THE FOR PLURAL THINGS

*use of when you say a name: the whole country, the whole of France

13.4

IN TIME & ON TIME

The wedding started on time

ON TIME MEANS THE TIME IT WAS PLANNED TO START

I got there in time to see the ceremony

IN TIME MEANS SOON ENOUGH FOR SOMETHING

*in time is usually followed by to do something or for something

*it's possible to say I didn't get to the lesson on time, but I arrived in time for the grammar

14.1

BEEN & GONE

I go to America every year

THE VERB IS TO GO

I went to America last year

THE VERB IS TO GO

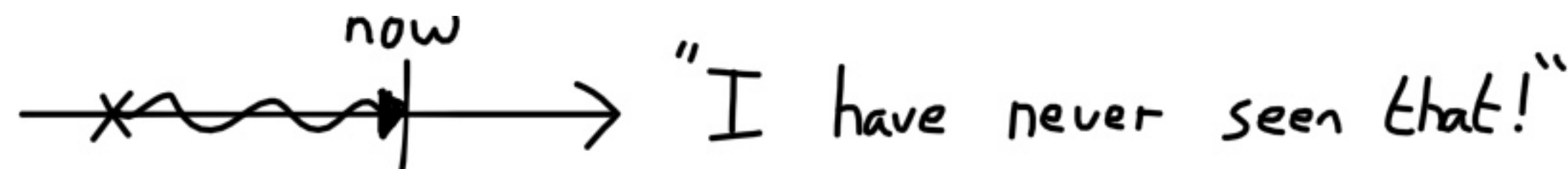
I've gone/been to America many times

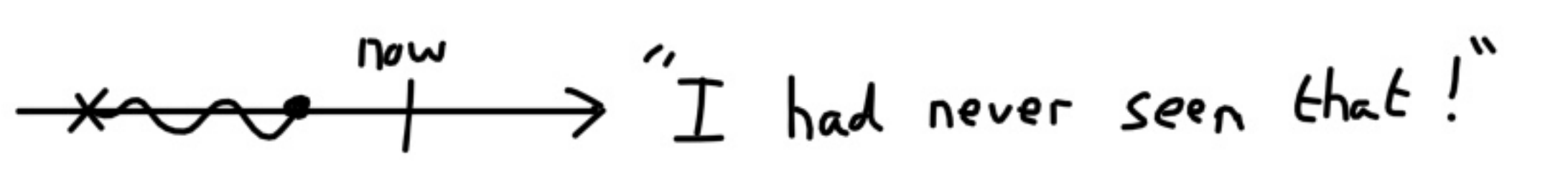
THE VERB CAN BE EITHER TO GO OR TO BE

*when using to go in the third form, we can use either I've gone or I've been

14.2

PRESENT PERFECT IN STORIES





I was so excited because I had never seen a koala bear

NOW I HAVE SEEN ONE; BUT AT THAT TIME I HADN'T SEEN ONE UP TILL THAT POINT IN MY LIFE

14.3

NEGATIVES

We need to don't offend him

YOU CAN'T PUT DON'T/DOESN'T IN THE MIDDLE OF A SENTENCE

I don't want to offend him

ONLY USE DON'T/DOESN'T AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SENTENCE

We need to not offend him

USE NOT TO PUT A NEGATIVE IN THE MIDDLE OF A SENTENCE

14.4

THE IMPERSONAL YOU

But what do you do if you need help?

THIS MEANS SOMEONE IN GENERAL - NOT YOU SPECIFICALLY

Where are you supposed to put the batteries?

THIS MEANS SOMEONE IN GENERAL - NOT YOU SPECIFICALLY

*old-fashioned English: but what does one do if one needs help - this is rarely used now