

EVERYDAY ENGLISH



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to **GEN 60-112 Everyday English Course!**

This course is designed to introduce everyday English phrases and vocabulary which students can use and practice in their daily lives. It has seven units; and each unit is presented with different interactive activities. To help learners gain an understanding of the context, the lessons always begin with vocabulary exercises that set the learning mood of the students in the classroom. It is followed with pronunciation exercises and drills for the students to familiarize themselves with the sounds of some English words used in daily conversations.

Each unit is also reinforced with language practices that enable the learners to practice what is being taught. Through group and pair work, all the activities cater to the needs and skills of the students in a friendlier learning classroom. The four macro skills, reading writing, listening, and speaking, are also given emphasis in the course and allow students to practice basic expressions to survive their everyday conversations in English.

At the end of each unit, different supplemental self-learning activities are presented so that students can make an independent study of all the common vocabulary words and phrases learned in the specific unit. It is hoped that at the end of each unit, students will be able to have solid knowledge on how the words and phrases and expressions are used in a specific environment.

All the lessons in the unit are carefully arranged in order to give students ample preparation time on each topic. Pictures, videos and other language games are a few of the learning strategies employed in this material to scaffold learners' English language learning.

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UNIT 1. DESCRIBING PEOPLE

Objectives:

At the end of this unit, students are expected to:

- describe a person through his/her physical appearance;
- use the descriptive vocabulary words in context;
- transform sentences to Yes/no questions; and
- introduce and describe themselves.

A. VOCABULARY: Choose the words which do not describe a person.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. a. handsome | b. England | c. good-looking | d. muscular |
| 2. a. dog | b. long haired | c. medium | d. tall |
| 3. a. brown-skinned | b. white-skinned | c. smart | d. mango |
| 4. a. paper | b. brown eyes | c. fat | d. slim |
| 5. a. young | b. old | c. flower | d. middle-aged |

A.1. Pair Work: Look at the 2 pictures below. Choose a partner and decide who will describe the person in A and in B. Take turns in describing the pictures.

A



B



Some Examples of Describing a person's physical appearance					
Height	Build	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Nose
tall, short, medium height, average, normal	large, small, heavy, slim,	(Men's hairstyle & haircut) crew cut, curly hair, partly bald head, bald patch, bald head, short hair, long hair	firm, blue, brown, close-set, dark, deep, deep-set, gray, hazel-eyed, pale, sunken, wide-set, green, lifeless, tearful, watery, sleepy, tired, weary, dark-ringed, exhausted, red-rimmed, puffy, swollen, sunken, hollow, narrow, wide, enormous, large, huge, big, golden	light-brown skin, black, dark skin, white, fair skin, lightly tanned skin, pale, tanned	big, large, flat, curved, straight, pointed, sharp, small, long, prominent, strong,
		Hair (women's hairstyle) ponytail, swept-back hair, bun, curled hair, falling hair, shingle, hair, bobbed hair			

B. PRONUNCIATION: Pronounce the vocabulary words with your teacher.

handsome	good-looking	muscular
long hair	medium	tall
brown-skinned	white-skinned	smart
brown eyes	fat	slim
young	old	middle-aged

C. DIALOGUE: Read the following dialogue below with a partner.

At the Cinema

Ali: Hey, Mark. I did not know you were here. How was the movie?

Mark: It was nice. I mean, I am not really into Sci-Fi movies, but that one was awesome.

Ali: I could not agree with you more on that. By the way, who's with you?

Mark: I am with Shahani actually; but, she's still inside the cinema. I went out early as I needed to use the toilet. Did you see her there?

Ali: I am afraid not. What does she look like? Is she tall and slim? Is she wearing a jacket?

Mark: She's tall and slim, with fair-skin, and long black hair. She's wearing a black coat and a pair of jeans.

Ali: Does she look like a beauty queen? I think, I see her now. Is that her standing by the door of the women's wash room talking to two other women?

Mark: Right. That's her.

D. LANGUAGE FOCUS: Yes/No Questions. Read the following questions from the dialogue;

1. Did you see her there?
2. Is she tall and slim?
3. Is she wearing a jacket?
4. Does she look like a beauty queen?
5. Is that her standing by the door of the women's wash room?

Now, study the following:

1. What kind of questions are they?
2. How do these questions start?
3. What is the structure of the question?

Describing People's Appearance
1. She is tall and beautiful. Is she tall and beautiful?
2. He is muscular. Is he muscular?
3. They all have short-black hair. Do they all have short-black hair?
4. She looks like a beauty queen. Does she look like a beauty queen?
5. She is still inside the cinema. Is she still inside the cinema.

Describing People's Personalities
1. She is kind and honest. Is she kind and honest?
2. He is confident and energetic. Is he confident and energetic?
3. They are hard-working. Are they hard-working?

Forming the YES/No questions:

1. If the main verb of the sentence is "to be", simply invert the subject and the verb to be:

Examples:

- a. She is kind and honest. *Is she kind and honest?*
- b. He is confident and energetic. *Is he confident and energetic?*
- c. They are hard-working. *Are they hard-working?*

2. If the verb is in the present tense, add either do or does and put the main verb in its base form. (This can only be applied when a sentence includes a verb which is not the verb "to be" and doesn't include a helping (auxiliary) verb.

For verbs in the present tense: (do, does)

do is used when the subject is in the first person singular, second person singular, first person plural, second person plural and third person plural (I, you, we, they).

Examples:

- a. They all have short-black hair. *Do they all have short-black hair?*
- b. I have a pointed nose. *Do I have a pointed nose?*

does is used when the subject is in the third person singular (he, she, it).

Examples:

- a. She wears a black coat. *Does she wear a black coat?*
- b. He has thick eyebrows. *Does he have thick eyebrows?*

For verbs in the past tense: (did)

did is used when the verb is in the past tense.

Examples:

- a. He brought the keys. — *Did he bring the keys?*
- b. She put heavy make-up on her face. *Did she put heavy make-up on her face?*

EXERCISE:

A. Transform the following sentences to YES/NO questions.

1. My father stands five feet nine inches tall.
_____?
2. I wore a tight pair of pants during the concert yesterday.
_____?
3. She is arrogant and cunning.
_____?
4. He holds the Mr. Universe 2017 title.
_____?
5. They smile before the audience.
_____?

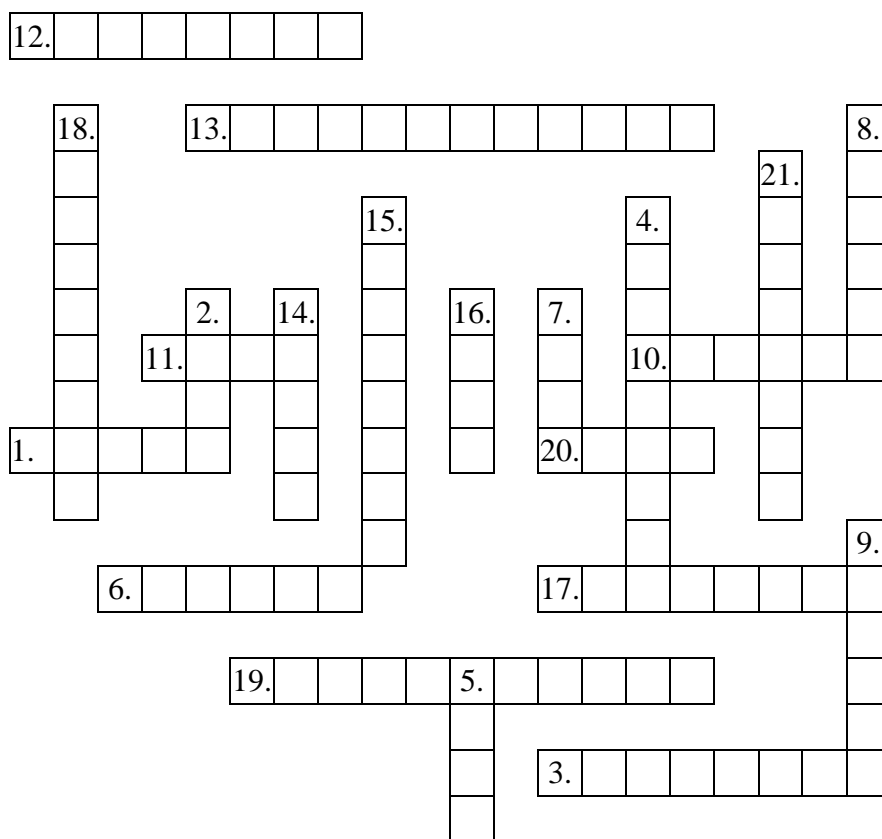
E. LANGUAGE PRACTICE: With your group mates, describe a member of your family (mother, father, sister, brother, etc), your best friend, or your special someone using any of the words in the practice vocabulary.

E.1. Reinforcement Activity: Interview your seatmate/partner about his/her favorite food, movies, songs, etc, using YES/NO questions. Describe his/her personality and appearance in the class. Be able to include basic information about him/her.

F. HOMEWORK (WRITING): Write a short essay of 3 paragraphs about yourself. The first paragraph should be your introduction; your name, birthplace, birthdate, age, etc. The second paragraph should focus on the description of your appearance; your height, weight, color of your skin, eyes, hair, etc. The third paragraph should be about your likes, dislikes, interests, hobbies, etc.

G. SUPPLEMENTAL SELF-LEARNING ACTIVITY (VOCABULARY)

1. CROSSWORD PUZZLE: Complete the following crossword puzzle below.



Across

1. straight hair; antonym
3. curly hair; antonym
6. a permanent drawing or design on the skin
10. thin; synonym
11. light or white colored (skin)
12. has a lot of muscles
13. handsome, pretty or beautiful (2 words hyphenated)
17. able to adapt to many different situations
19. does not think about other people's feelings
20. Does not like sharing, giving or spending money on other people. This adjective also means "nasty"

Down

2. hair that bounces back like a wave
4. hair on the upper lip
5. a permanent mark on the skin from an accident
7. a nice word for thin
8. another word for overweight
9. the noun for how tall a person is
14. hair on the chin
15. always on time
16. doesn't like working
18. Works hard to become the best and at the top
21. the noun of "strong"

2. WORD COMPLETION. Choose from the pool of words below and complete the sentence by filling in the right word.

beautiful	young	old	slim	thin
fat	handsome	blond hair	short	tall
bald	smart	fit	tattooed	well-built

1. _____ is the opposite of short.
2. If you eat lots of junk food, you will get _____.
3. _____ people are below average height.
4. _____ is the opposite of old.
5. You are _____ when you are 50 or 60 years old.
6. _____ is the opposite of fat.
7. A good-looking woman is _____.
8. _____ is similar to thin.
9. You have _____ if your hair is a yellow color.
10. A good-looking man is _____.
11. Doni has a shaved head. He is _____.
12. First impressions last. You have to look _____ to impress.
13. Mark is always doing exercise. He is _____.
14. Bert has a lot of ink on his body. He is a _____ guy.
15. You are _____ if you have a strong body and are bigger than the average person.

3. MATCHING TYPE: Match the words in Column A with the words in Column B which have the same meaning.

Column A

1. Adaptable
2. Loving
3. Caring
4. Ambitious
5. Affectionate
6. Courageous
7. Diligent
8. Generous
9. Sincere
10. Witty

Column B

- a. active
- b. versatile
- c. determined
- d. brave
- e. amusing
- f. admiring
- g. benevolent
- h. protecting
- i. friendly
- j. heartfelt

4. VOCABULARY WORDS: Use your dictionary to find and study the meanings of the following words.

Able	Funny
afraid	intelligent
alone	interested
amazed	jealous
amusing	Keen
angry	kind
annoyed	Lazy
anxious	Lovely
ashamed	lucky
awful	Married
Bad	Miserable
beautiful	modern
better	negative
bored	nervous
boring	Nice
bossy	Noisy
brave	normal
brilliant	old
Busy	old-fashioned
calm	ordinary
careful	original
delighted	reliable
depressed	rude
different	sad
difficult	satisfied
disappointed	serious
disappointing	slim
Easy	slow
embarrassed	small
embarrassing	smart
excellent	sorry
excited	soft
famous	special
fantastic	strange
favorite	strong
Fine	stupid
fit	sure
fond	surprised
Free	sweet
frightened	tall
friendly	terrible

Personality and Appearance (Common questions)	Common Description
1. Tell me about your father. What kind of a person is he?	Well, he's very friendly, smart and funny.
2. What does he look like?	He's young, short and handsome. He has straight black hair and green eyes.
3. What does your mother look like?	She's tall, thin and beautiful. She has blonde hair and wears glasses.
4. How about your little sister?	She has curly red hair and a cute smile. Everybody likes her.
Clothing	
5. What is your brother wearing?	He's wearing light brown pants and an orange t-shirt.
6. What kind of shoes does he have (on)?	Sneakers, and he's wearing white socks.
7. Is Susan wearing a dress?	No. She's wearing a blue skirt and a yellow blouse.
8. Anything else?	Yes. She's wearing boots and carrying a purse.

Some Common Idiomatic Expressions to Describe People:

abbreviated piece of nothing	This slang expression refers to someone who is considered to be insignificant or worthless. Bob doesn't think much of his new colleague. He calls him an 'abbreviated piece of nothing'.
all brawn and no brain	Someone who is physically very strong but not very intelligent is said to be <i>all brawn and no brain</i> . He's an impressive player to watch, but he's all brawn and no brain.
all sizzle and no steak	Someone who turns out to be disappointing, after a promotional campaign which led us to expect something better, is called <i>all sizzle and no steak</i> . Because of the electoral promises he made, which so far he has failed to keep, many people call the new president 'all sizzle and no steak'.
all things to all people	If you are <i>all things to all people</i> , you please or satisfy everyone. She's exhausted trying to be a good wife, a good mother and a good teacher, but she can't be all things to all people.
apple of your eye	A person, usually a child, who is <i>the apple of your eye</i> is one for whom you have great affection. My grandson is the apple of my eye.
armchair critic	An <i>armchair critic</i> is someone who gives advice based on theory rather than practice. That guy is such an armchair critic - no experience but plenty of advice.

armchair traveler	Someone who reads books or watches TV programs about other places and countries, but doesn't actually travel anywhere, is called an <i>armchair traveler</i> . A surprising number of adventure books are bought by armchair travelers.
bad egg	Someone who is a <i>bad egg</i> is an untrustworthy person often involved in trouble whose company should be avoided. I don't want my son to be friends with Bobby Smith. Bobby's a bad egg.
behind the times	A person who is <i>behind the times</i> has old-fashioned ideas and does not keep up with modern life in general. Jane doesn't have a mobile phone. She's completely behind the times.
big cheese	This expression refers to a person who has a lot of power and influence in an organization. Tom's father is a big cheese in the oil industry.
big fish in a small pond	This term refers to an important or highly-ranked person in a small group or organization. He could get a job with a big company but he enjoys being a big fish in a small pond.
born with a silver spoon in one's mouth	A person who is <i>born with a silver spoon in their mouth</i> is born into a very rich family. She never has to worry about money; she was born with a silver spoon in her mouth.
butter wouldn't melt in your mouth	If you say that someone looks as if <i>butter wouldn't melt in their mouth</i> , you mean that they look completely innocent, but that they are capable of doing unpleasant things. The boy who stole the purse looked as if butter wouldn't melt in his mouth.