

A GUIDE TO THE LANGUAGE

# ENGLISH IS NOT EASY

LUCI GUTIÉRREZ



---

# ENGLISH IS NOT EASY

---

by LUCI GUTIÉRREZ

 Planeta

Gutiérrez, Luci

English is not easy / Luci Gutiérrez. - 1a ed. - Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires : Planeta, 2021.

344 p. ; 21 x 17 cm.

ISBN 978-950-49-7513-7

1. Arte. 2. Humor. 3. Ilustración. I. Título.  
CDD 760.118

© 2013, Luci Gutiérrez

Por mediación de MB Agencia Literaria, S.L.

Diseño e ilustración de portada: Luci Gutiérrez

Diseño e ilustraciones de interiores: Luci Gutiérrez

© 2020, Editorial Planeta Mexicana, S.A. de C.V.

Bajo el sello editorial PLANETA M.R.

Avenida Presidente Masarik núm. 111,

Piso 2, Polanco V Sección, Miguel Hidalgo

C.P. 11560, Ciudad de México

[www.planetadelibros.com.mx](http://www.planetadelibros.com.mx)

Derechos reservados de esta edición

© 2021, Grupo Editorial Planeta S.A.I.C.

Publicado bajo el sello Planeta®

Av. Independencia 1682, C1100ABQ, C.A.B.A.

[www.editorialplaneta.com.ar](http://www.editorialplaneta.com.ar)

1ª edición: noviembre de 2021

3.300 ejemplares

ISBN 978-950-49-7513-7

Impreso en Gráfica Triñanes,

Charlone 971, Avellaneda, Pcia. de Buenos Aires,

en el mes de octubre de 2021

Hecho el depósito que prevé la ley 11.723

Impreso en la Argentina

No se permite la reproducción parcial o total, el almacenamiento, el alquiler, la transmisión o la transformación de este libro, en cualquier forma o por cualquier medio, sea electrónico o mecánico, mediante fotocopias, digitalización u otros métodos, sin el permiso previo y escrito del editor.

Su infracción está penada por las leyes 11.723 y 25.446 de la República Argentina.

**T**here are two types of people in this world: those who learn languages easily and those who struggle with them. I (and probably you) fall into the second group. I don't even want to think about the hours (and money!) I spent trying to learn English when, really, I hated pretty much every minute of it. But people seem so smart when they can speak English, so I kept at it. That meant doing online courses, intensive summer classes, and even going to New York and getting up early on freezing winter mornings to head out to a Russian part of Brooklyn that to me was like the Far West. I barely managed to stay awake during classes in Times Square taught by teachers with dubious accents, while they received massages from devoted Japanese students. Each of these experiences came with the corresponding textbook, which addressed such thrilling topics as extreme sports and atmospheric conditions. You know, everyday vocabulary for when you leave the house and see a paraglider get carried off by a hurricane.

But having done all that and finding myself on the other side of the Atlantic, I had to discover a way—even with my terrible memory—to retain what I had learned. That's how I decided to use my drawing skills to help me memorize words and grammatical concepts. And those drawings turned into this book and learning English turned into something fun. Maybe it won't work for you, but drawing these pages helped me string a few words together in English. Don't I look smart now?



*lesson*



# THE ENGLISH ALPHABET

*I am  
a cauliflower  
and I can spell it:*

CEE-A-U-EL-I-EF  
EL-O-DOUBLE-U-  
E-AR



A A [eɪ] B BEE [bi:] C CEE [si:] D DEE [di:] E E [i:]

F EF [ɛf] G GEE [dʒi:] H AITCH [eɪtʃ] I i [aɪ] J JAY [dʒeɪ] K KAY [keɪ]

L EL [ɛl] M EM [ɛm] N EN [ɛn] O o [oʊ] P PEE [pi:]

Q CUE [kju:] R AR [ɑr] S ESS [ɛs] T TEE [ti:] U U [ju:]

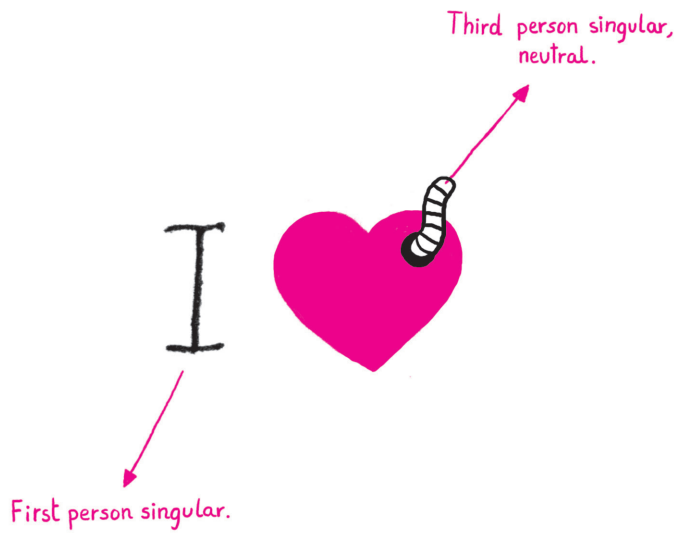
V VEE [vi:] W DOUBLE-U [ˈdʌbəlju:] X EX [ɛks] Y WY [waɪ] Z ZEE [zɛ]

# SUBJECT PRONOUNS

PERSON		PRONOUN
singular	1st	<i>I</i>
	2nd	<i>You</i>
	3rd male	<i>He</i>
	3rd female	<i>She</i>
	3rd neutral	<i>It</i>
plural	1st	<i>We</i>
	2nd	<i>You</i>
	3rd	<i>They</i>

Subject pronouns indicate the person or object we are talking about.

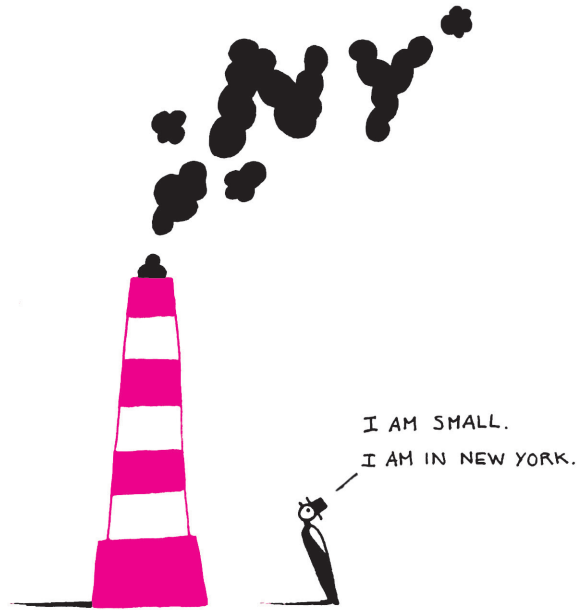




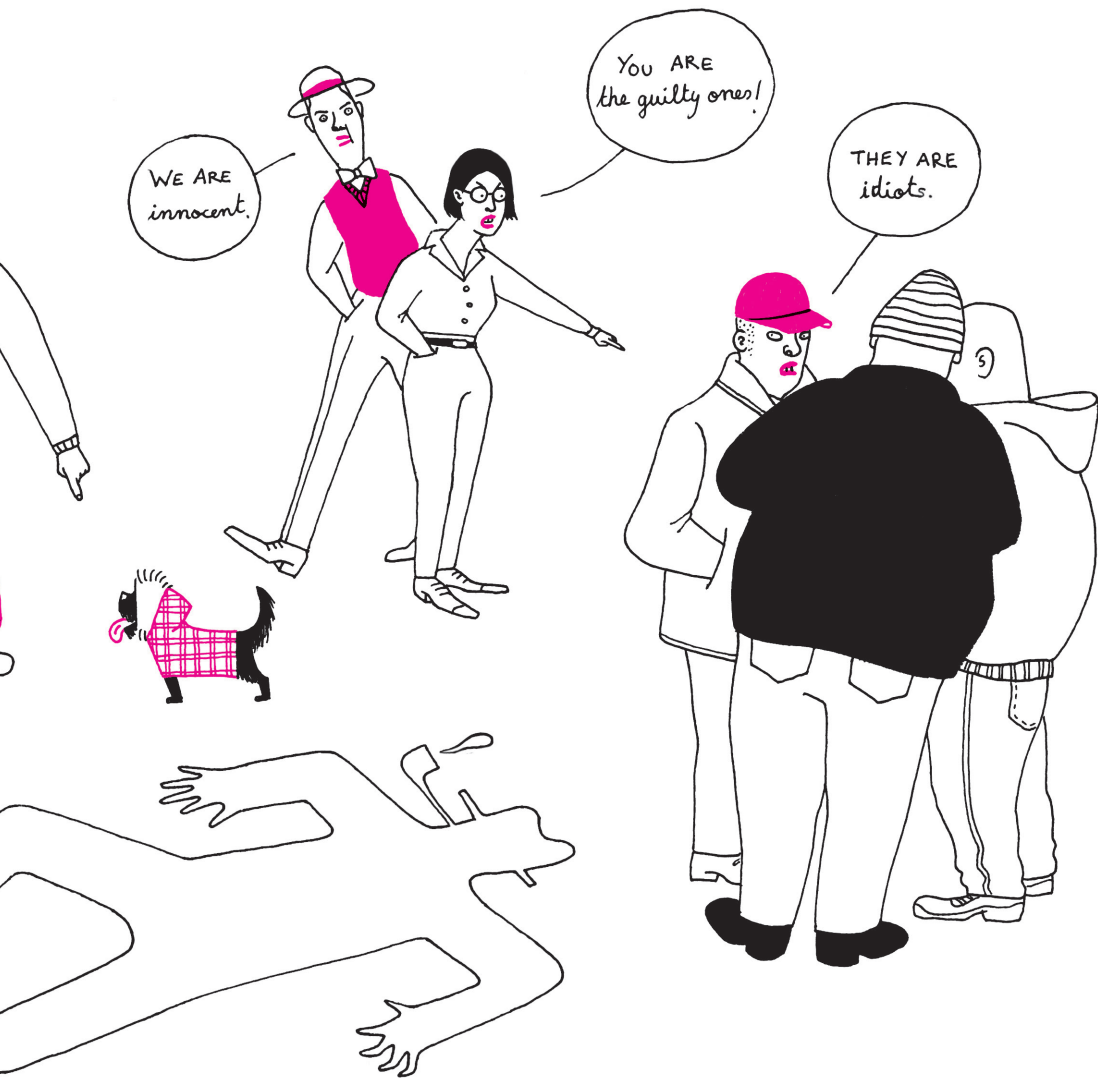
TO  
BE

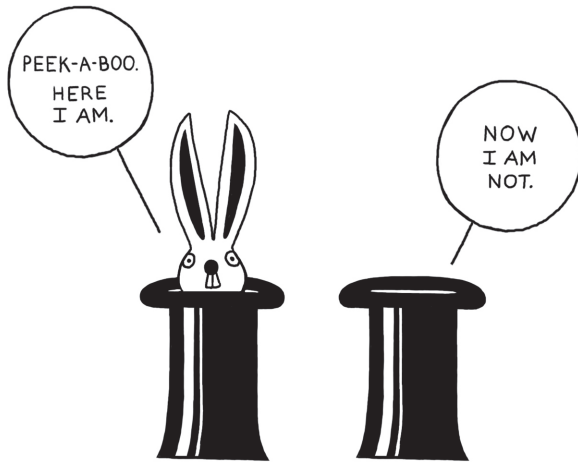
---

The verb “to be” means to exist.









# *to be*

---

## *in the Present Simple*

---

To make  
**NEGATIVES**,  
insert **NOT** after the verb “to be”.

*I am not | I'm not  
You are not | You aren't  
He is not | He isn't  
She is not | She isn't  
It is not | It isn't  
We are not | We aren't  
You are not | You aren't  
They are not | They aren't*

---

---

The  
**SIMPLE PRESENT FORM**  
of TO BE.

*I am | I'm  
You are | You're  
He is | He's  
She is | She's  
It is | It's  
We are | We're  
You are | You're  
They are | They're*

---

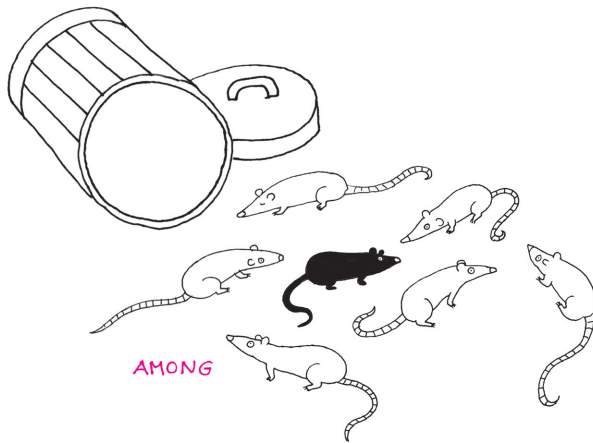
---

To make  
**QUESTIONS**,  
invert the subject and the verb.

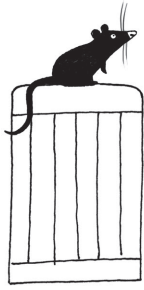
*Am I ... ?  
Are you ... ?  
Is he ... ?  
Is she ... ?  
Is it ... ?  
Are we ... ?  
Are you ... ?  
Are they ... ?*

---

# Place PREPOSITIONS



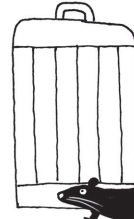




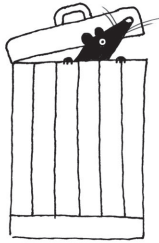
ON



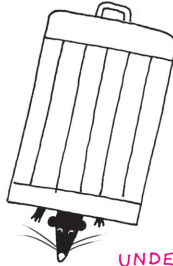
OVER



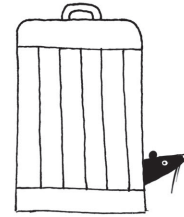
IN FRONT OF



IN



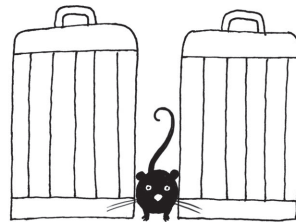
UNDER



BEHIND



NEXT TO



BETWEEN

# index

<b>HOW THIS BOOK CAME TO BE</b>	<b>7</b>	The 5 Senses	
		Jobs	
		Family	
		Vocabulary: At home	
		Vocabulary: Food	
<b>LESSON 1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>LESSON 4</b>	<b>87</b>
The English Alphabet		Vocabulary: Verbs	
Subject Pronouns		Imperative	
The Verb “To Be”			
“To Be” in the Simple Present		<b>LESSON 5</b>	<b>107</b>
Place Prepositions		“To Be” in the Simple Past	
Where Are These People From?		Simple Past	
Question Words		Irregular Verbs	
Word Order in Sentences			
		<b>LESSON 6</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>LESSON 2</b>	<b>31</b>	Present Continuous	
Simple Present		Simple Present vs. Present Continuous	
Third Person Singular		Past Continuous	
Plurals		Simple Past vs. Past Continuous	
Irregular Plurals			
Countable & Uncountable Nouns		<b>LESSON 7</b>	<b>141</b>
How Much & How Many		Adjectives	
Some & Any		Participial Adjectives	
There Is & There Are		Adjective Order	
Demonstratives: this, these, that, those		Adjective + Preposition Expressions	
Possessives: Pronouns & Adjectives		Comparatives & Superlatives	
’S + Nouns			
<b>LESSON 3</b>	<b>59</b>		
Vocabulary: The Body and Stuff			

As...As

**LESSON 8 .....163**

Adverbs

In, On, At: Place Prepositions

In, On, At: Time Prepositions

**LESSON 9 .....179**

Hours

Times of the Day & Days of the Week

Months & Seasons

Dates

**LESSON 10 .....191**

Future: Will

Future: Be Going To

Future Continuous

**LESSON 11 .....207**

Present Perfect Simple & Continuous

Present Perfect or Simple Past?

Past Perfect Simple & Continuous

Future Perfect Simple & Continuous

All Verb Tenses

**LESSON 12 .....225**

Gerund or To + Infinitive

Usually, Used To, Be Used To, Get Used To

Wish

Rather

Connectors

Relative Clauses

Active & Passive Voices

Reported Speech

**LESSON 13 .....247**

Phrasal Verbs

**LESSON 14 .....273**

Modals & Similar Expressions

Question Tags

**LESSON 15 .....291**

Conditionals

“If” or “Whether”?

**LESSON 16 .....305**

Idioms

**LESSON 17 .....323**

Useful Expressions

Insults

Connected Speech

Acronyms