

“QualityTime-ESL” presents...



QT-ESL Podcast No. 15

“Numbers”

Hi! I’m Marianne Raynaud, and I am here to help you improve your level of spoken English. Today we will practice with numbers. This may seem very easy but using numbers correctly when telephoning or at a meeting is an essential skill, which is always difficult if the learner has not practiced before. The idea today is to practice saying and reading numbers aloud without making any mistakes. At one point in this podcast, I will ask you to write down numbers. So it is best to have a pencil and paper within reach.

First it is back to the basics! Say together with me or repeat after me.

1 to 10 (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)

Now every tenth number to one hundred (20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100)

Repeat after me.

One hundred One thousand One million One billion One trillion

Go on repeating.

Ten times ten equals one hundred.

Ten times one hundred equals one thousand.

One thousand times one thousand equals one million.

One thousand times one million equals one billion.

One thousand times one billion equals one trillion

And continue repeating.

One hundred Two thousand Three million Four billion Five trillion

You have undoubtedly realized that there is no “s” when you say the numbers. That is because a number is considered an adjective and like the adjectives there is no form with “s”. So let’s repeat these numbers once again.

One hundred Two thousand Three million Four billion Five trillion



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On the other hand, if you are giving estimations you have to add an “s”. Repeat after me.

Hundreds of people	Millions of people	And trillions of stars!
Thousands of people	Billions of people	

After doing all this repeating it is time to do an exercise. Repeat after me as you write these numbers down.

- 28,632 (twenty-eight thousand six hundred and thirty-two) *Be sure to write a comma after twenty-eight thousand.)*
- 11,900,062 (eleven million nine hundred thousand and sixty-two) *Be sure to write a comma after eleven million and after nine hundred.*
- 13,001,509 (thirteen million one thousand five hundred and nine) *Be sure to write a comma after thirteen million and after one thousand.*
- 200,000,000 (two hundred million) *Be sure to write commas to indicate the millions and thousands.*
- 11.9 (eleven point nine)
- 1.869 (one point eight six nine)
- \$37,000 (thirty-seven thousandu dollars). *The dollar sign always comes before the figure! And check your commas.*
- \$30,000,000 (thirty million dollars) *Check your commas and the dollar sign in front of the number.*
- €13,239 (thirteen thousand two hundred and thirty-nine euros) *I hope you wrote a comma after thirteen. The euro sign always comes before the figure.*
- £359,000 (three hundred and fifty-nine thousandu pounds) *The pound sign always comes before the figure! A comma, please, after three hundred and fifty-nine thousand.*
- 37.6° F (thirty-seven point six degrees Fahrenheit) *Be sure to write the point—I mean the “decimal point”.*
- 98.3° C (ninety-eight point three degrees Centigrade) *Did you write the decimal point after ninety-eight? I hope so!*



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Now say these same numbers together with me. You have the numbers written down on a paper.

28,632	(twenty-eight thousand six hundred and thirty-two)
11,900,062	(eleven million nine hundred thousand and sixty-two)
13,001,509	(thirteen million one thousand five hundred and nine)
200,000,000	(two hundred million)
11.9	(eleven point nine)
1.869	(one point eight six nine)
\$37,000	(thirty-eight thousand <u>dollars</u>)
\$30,000,000	(thirty million dollars)
€13,239	(thirteen thousand two hundred and thirty-nine euros)
£359,000	(three hundred and fifty-nine thousand <u>pounds</u>)
37.6° F	(thirty-seven point six degrees Fahrenheit)
98.3° C	(ninety-eight point three degrees Centigrade)

Finally let us do a few math problems.

I say: $2 + 2$ (two plus two)

You say: $2 + 2 = 4$ (two plus two equals four)

I say: $42 - 22$ (forty-two minus twenty-two)

You say: $42 - 22 = 20$ (forty-two minus twenty-two equals twenty)

I say: 3×5 (three times five)

You say: $3 \times 5 = 15$ (three times five equals fifteen)

I say: $16 / 2$ (sixteen divided by two)

You say: $16 / 2 = 8$ (sixteen divided by two equals eight)

Now you go on in the same way. Be sure to give the equation before I give the right answer.

$2 + 2$ (two plus two)

$2 + 2 = 4$ (two plus two equals four)

$42 - 22$ (thirty-two minus twenty-two)



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42 - 22 = 20 (forty-two minus twenty-two equals twenty)

3 x 5 (three times five)

3 x 5 = 15 (three times five equals fifteen)

16 / 2 (sixteen divided by two)

16 / 2 = 8 (sixteen divided by two equals eight)

20 + 30 (twenty plus thirty)

20 + 30 = 50 (twenty plus thirty equals fifty)

12 - 3 (twelve minus three)

12 - 3 = 9 (twelve minus three equals nine)

47 x 2 (forty-seven times two)

47 x 2 = 94 (forty-seven times two equals ninety-four)

6 x 7 (six times seven)

6 x 7 = 42 (six times seven equals forty-two)

44 / 11 (forty-four divided by eleven)

44 / 11 = 4 (forty-four divided by eleven equals four)

6 / 3 (six divided by three)

6 / 3 = 2 (six divided by three equals two!)

Listen and repeat.

That was long and difficult, but now I can **read off numbers** without hesitating too much. If someone asks me **to say a telephone number** slowly so that it can be written down, I am now able to do it. I will **read numbers** as often as possible and say them out loud whenever I can.

That is the end of today's podcast. Thank you for listening. Bye for now, and don't forget to keep smiling.