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# ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN USE

Vocabulary  
reference and  
practice

Third Edition

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**Elementary**

Michael McCarthy  
Felicity O'Dell

Experience  
Better  
Learning

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with answers  
and ebook

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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

4843/24, 2nd Floor, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, Delhi – 110002, India

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

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Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/elt](http://www.cambridge.org/elt)

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First published 2005

Third Edition 2017

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

ISBN 978-1-316-63152-2 Edition with answers and ebook

ISBN 978-1-316-63153-9 Edition with answers

ISBN 978-1-316-63154-6 ebook

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## Acknowledgements

# Thanks

Sabina Ostrowska wrote two new units for the Third Edition: Unit 17, *Your phone*, and Unit 20, *Online shopping*. The publishers would like to thank Sabina for her contribution to this new edition.

# Introduction

## To the student

This book will help you learn around 1, 250 new words and phrases. You can use the book yourself, without a teacher. You can do the units in any order you like. If you have the edition with the ebook, you can listen to the pronunciation of all the new vocabulary, and highlight text. see [page 171](#) for more information about the ebook.

Here is what the pages look like:

The image shows two pages from a textbook. The top page is titled '42 Come / came / come'. It features a diagram of boxes and arrows, a section 'A Come in / out' with illustrations of people entering and leaving a room, a section 'B Come back and come home' with a person returning home, and a section 'C Other important uses of come' with a dialogue. The bottom page is titled 'Exercises' and contains four numbered exercises (42.1-42.4) with various tasks like gap-fills, matching, and writing. A table at the bottom of the exercises page lists the verb 'come' in different forms and contexts.

The left-hand page presents the new vocabulary.

The left-hand page is divided into sections.

Common mistakes and learning tips are also given on the left-hand page.

The right-hand page practises the new vocabulary.

Pictures, tables and diagrams give variety to the exercises.

Diagrams and pictures show the meaning.

Example sentences show the words in context.

Mini-dialogues show how people use the words in real situations.

A lot of different exercise types are used: gap-fills, answering questions, matching, etc.

Over to you tasks give you a chance to do more work on the topic of the unit.

The Answer key at the end of the book is for you to check your answers to the exercises after you do them. The Answer key sometimes has more than one answer. This is because there is often not just one correct way of saying something. The Answer key also has possible answers for most of the exercises which are open-ended, or where you are asked to talk about yourself.

The Index at the end of the book has all the important words and phrases from the left-hand pages. The Index also tells you how to pronounce words. There is a list of phonemic symbols to help you understand the pronunciation on [page 158](#).

It is a good idea to have a dictionary with you when you use the book so you can check the meaning of something, or translate a word into your own language. sometimes, you will also need a dictionary for the exercises; we tell you when this is so. You also need a vocabulary notebook to write down new words. see [page 170](#) for ideas on how to learn and remember these new words.

We hope you like this book. When you have finished all the units in this book, you can go to the next book in the series, *English Vocabulary in Use: Pre-intermediate and Intermediate*, and after that, to the higher levels, *English Vocabulary in Use: Upper-intermediate* and *English Vocabulary in Use: Advanced*.

## To the teacher

This book can be used in class or as a self-study book. It is intended for learners at A1–A2 levels of the Council of Europe scale. It aims to take learners with a very basic level of vocabulary to a point where they can use approximately 2,000 words and phrases and teaches them around 1,250 new words and phrases. The vocabulary has been chosen for its usefulness in everyday situations, and we consulted a written and spoken corpus of present-day English to help us decide on the words and phrases to be included. The new vocabulary (on average 20–30 items per unit) is presented with photos or illustrations and explanations on the left-hand page, and there are exercises and activities on the right-hand page. There is an Answer key and an Index with pronunciation for all the key vocabulary.

The book focuses not just on single words, but also on useful phrases and collocations. For example, difficult teaching points such as the difference between **do** and **make** are dealt with through collocation (we **do** our homework, but we **make** mistakes), and useful phrases (e.g. **come along**) are presented.

The book is organised around everyday topics, but also has units devoted to core verbs such as **get** and **bring / take**. Typical errors are indicated where appropriate, and the most typical meanings and uses are focused on for each key item. The units in the book can be used in any order you like, but it is often a good idea to do blocks of units based round the same topic (e.g. *People, At home, Leisure*).

The right-hand pages offer a variety of different types of activities, including traditional ones such as gap-filling, but also more open-ended ones and personalised activities which enable learners to talk about their own lives. Although the activities and exercises are designed for self-study, they can easily be adapted for pairwork, groupwork or whole-class activities in the usual ways. For example, where there are dialogues, students can take the speaking parts and practise the conversations, and where the exercises have questions and answers, students can practise asking each other the questions and answering them. See who has the best ideas for recording vocabulary in their notebook. The Answer key sometimes gives alternative answers to the exercises, and also gives possible model answers for the more personalised ones.

When the learners have worked through a group of units, it is a good idea to repeat some of the work (for example, the exercises) and to expand on the meaning and use of key words and phrases by extra discussion in class, and find other examples of the key items in other texts and situations. This can be done at intervals of one to three months after first working on a unit. This is important, since it is usually the case that learners need five to seven exposures to a word or phrase before they can really know it, and no single book can do enough to ensure that words are always learnt first time.

When your students have finished and reviewed all the units in this book, they can move on to the next book in this series: *English Vocabulary in Use: Pre-intermediate and Intermediate*, by Stuart Redman.

Find more resources for teachers at [www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

We hope you enjoy using the book.

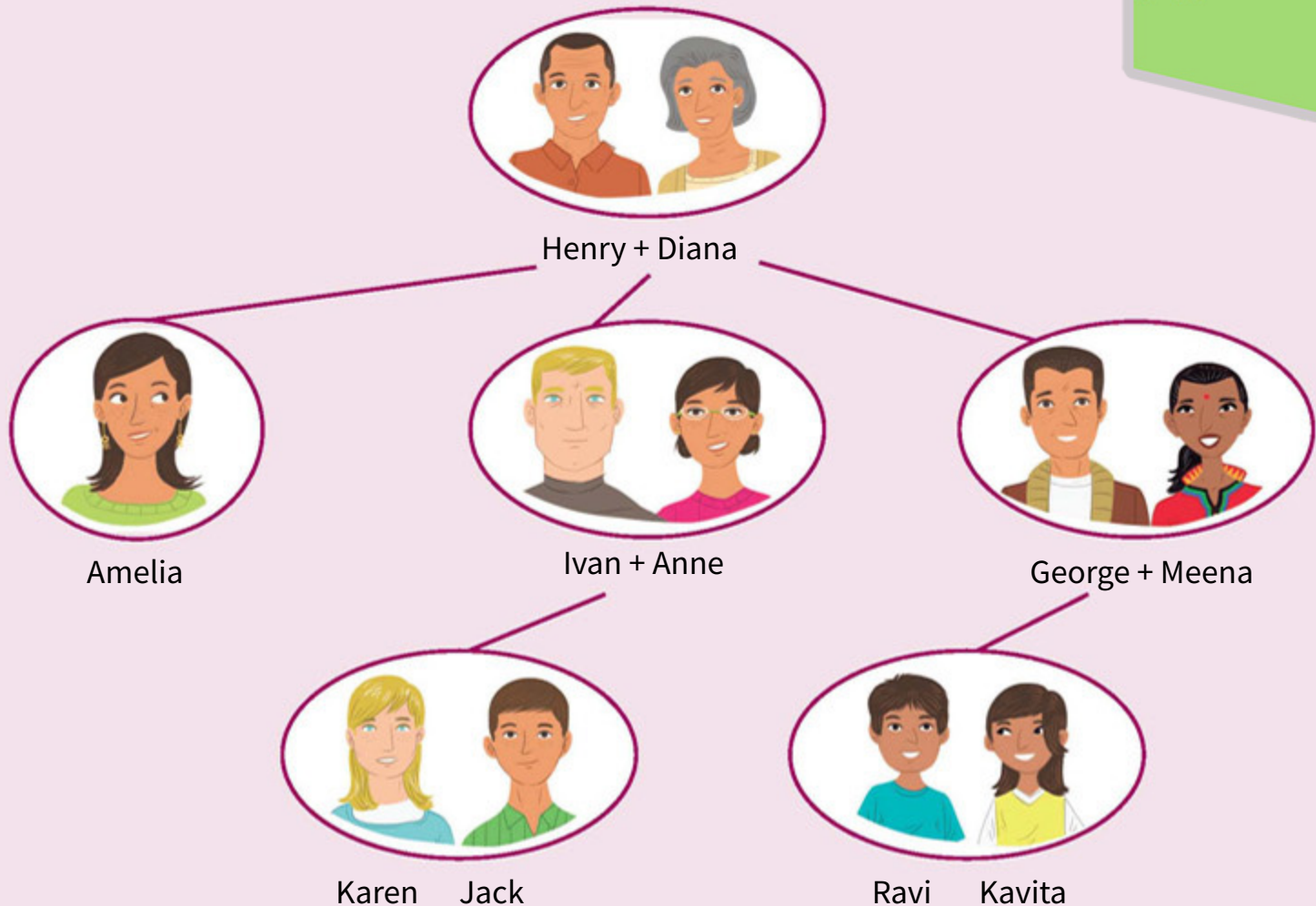




## A

## Family words

A family tree for some of Anne and Ivan Sorokin's **relatives** or **relations**.

Ivan and Anne and their **children**

Ivan is Anne's **husband** and Karen and Jack's **father**.

Anne is Ivan's **wife** and Karen and Jack's **mother**.

Anne and Ivan are Karen and Jack's **parents**.

Karen is Anne and Ivan's **daughter**. Jack is their **son**.

Karen is Jack's **sister**. Jack is Karen's **brother**.

## Henry and Diana

Henry is Karen and Jack's **grandfather**. Diana is their **grandmother**.

Henry and Diana are Karen and Jack's **grandparents**.

Karen is Henry and Diana's **granddaughter**. Jack is their **grandson**.

## Amelia, George and Meena

George is Karen and Jack's **uncle**.

Amelia and Meena are Karen and Jack's **aunts**.

Karen is Amelia, George and Meena's **niece**. Jack is their **nephew**.

Kavita and Ravi are Karen and Jack's **cousins**.

## B

## Expressions

**Have you got any** brothers and sisters?

No, I am **an only child**.

**Do you come from a big family?**

Yes, I have three brothers and two sisters.

Common **mistakes**

We say 'my/his wife' (singular) but 'our/their wives' (plural).

# Exercises

## 1.1 Look at the family tree on the opposite page. Complete the sentences.

- 1 Kavita is Ravi's *sister* .....
- 2 Ravi is Kavita's .....
- 3 Anne is Kavita's .....
- 4 Ivan is Ravi's .....
- 5 Diana is Ravi's .....
- 6 Henry is Kavita's .....
- 7 Ravi is Ivan's .....
- 8 Kavita is Ivan's .....
- 9 Meena is Kavita's .....
- 10 Meena is George's .....
- 11 Karen is Ravi's .....

## 1.2 The Sorokins have some other relatives. Complete the sentences about them.



Sanjay



Alexander and Leila

Meena has a brother, Sanjay. Sanjay is Kavita and Ravi's<sup>1</sup> *uncle* ..... and Sanjay's wife is their<sup>2</sup> ..... . Sanjay and his wife have one son, Prem. Prem is an<sup>3</sup> ..... . Henry's parents are still alive. Alexander is Henry's<sup>4</sup> ..... and his<sup>5</sup> ..... Leila is Henry's<sup>6</sup> ..... . Alexander and Leila have three<sup>7</sup> ..... -Amelia, Ivan and George. Ivan and George and their<sup>8</sup> ..... , Anne and Meena, love their<sup>9</sup> ..... and visit them as often as possible.

## 1.3 Ask a friend these questions. Then write sentences about your friend and their family. For example, *Marta has one brother but no sisters.*

- 1 Have you got any brothers and sisters?
- 2 Have you got any cousins?
- 3 Have you got any nieces or nephews?
- 4 Have you got any grandparents?
- 5 Do you come from a big family?

## 1.4 Cover the opposite page. How many family words can you write down in two minutes? Check what you wrote carefully with the book. Did you spell everything correctly? Which words did you forget?

### Over to you

Draw your family tree. Then write sentences. Write about your relations. *Marta is my mother.*  
Use a dictionary to help you.

# 2

## Birth, marriage and death

A

### Birth

Anna **had a baby** yesterday.  
He **was born** at 1.15 yesterday morning.  
He **weighed** 3 kilograms.

They are going to **call** him John – **after** John, his grandfather. His grandfather's **birthday** is June 16th too – but he was born in 1957!  
The baby's parents **were born** in 1986.



#### Common mistakes

Anna **had a baby** [NOT Anna got a baby].  
He/ She **was born** [NOT He/ She born or He/ She is born].

B

### Marriage

If you do not have a partner, you are **single**.  
If you have a husband or wife, you are **married**.  
If your husband or wife dies, you are **widowed**.  
If your marriage breaks up, you are **separated / divorced**.  
[the marriage has legally ended]

Harry and Sarah **got married**.  
They (**got**) **married** in 2001.  
(*married* without *got* is more formal)  
They went on their **honeymoon** to Italy.  
They **were married** for 15 years.



The **wedding**

(bride)  
groom

bride

#### Common mistakes

Sarah **got married** to Harry [NOT with Harry].

C

### Death

Then Harry became **ill**.  
He **died** last year.  
He **died of** a heart attack.

#### Common mistakes

Harry is dead [NOT Harry is died or Harry is death].



The **funeral**

# Exercises

## 2.1 Think of people you know. Where were they born? When?

- 1 *My mother was born in Scotland on July 4th 1967.*
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

## 2.2 Find a word on the opposite page which means ...

- 1 the name for a woman on her wedding day. *bride*
- 2 the name for a man on his wedding day.
- 3 what you are if you haven't got a partner.
- 4 to be 57 kilograms.
- 5 what you are if your marriage has legally ended.
- 6 a religious service for a dead person.
- 7 a holiday after a wedding.
- 8 what you are if your husband or wife dies.

## 2.3 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

in after of to born on

<sup>1</sup> *In* ..... 2003 Anne got married <sup>2</sup> ..... Daniel Smith. Unfortunately, Daniel's grandmother, Lydia Smith, died <sup>3</sup> ..... old age soon after their wedding. Daniel and Anne were <sup>4</sup> ..... their honeymoon when she died. Anne's baby daughter was <sup>5</sup> ..... two years later. They called the baby Lydia, <sup>6</sup> ..... Daniel's grandmother.

## 2.4 When were these people born and when did they die? Write sentences.

- 1 Genghis Khan (1162–1227) *Genghis Khan was born in 1162 and died in 1227.*
- 2 Christopher Columbus (1451–1506)
- 3 Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
- 4 Princess Diana (1961–1997)
- 5 Heath Ledger (1979–2008)



## 2.5 Complete the sentences using died, dead or death.

- 1 Kelly's grandfather *died* ..... last year.
- 2 His ..... made her very sad.
- 3 Her grandmother has been ..... for five years now.
- 4 She ..... of a heart attack.
- 5 Now all Kelly's grandparents are .....

## 2.6 Write about your family. Use words and expressions from the opposite page.

Here are some ideas for making your sentences.

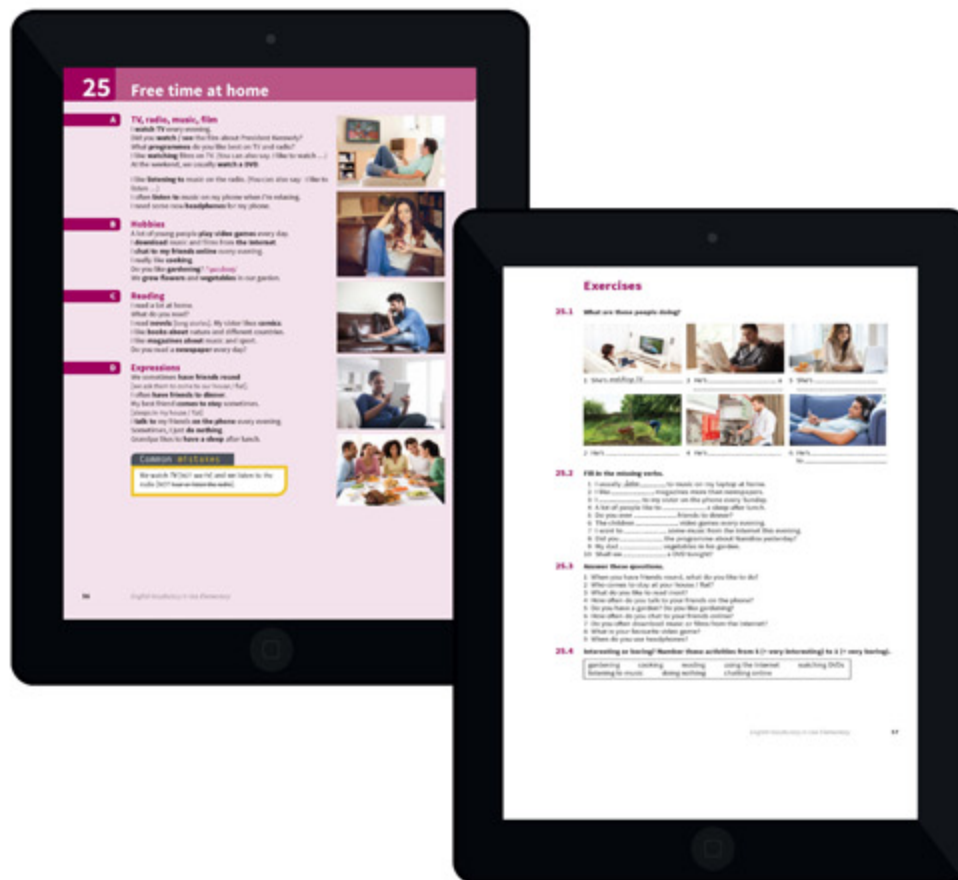
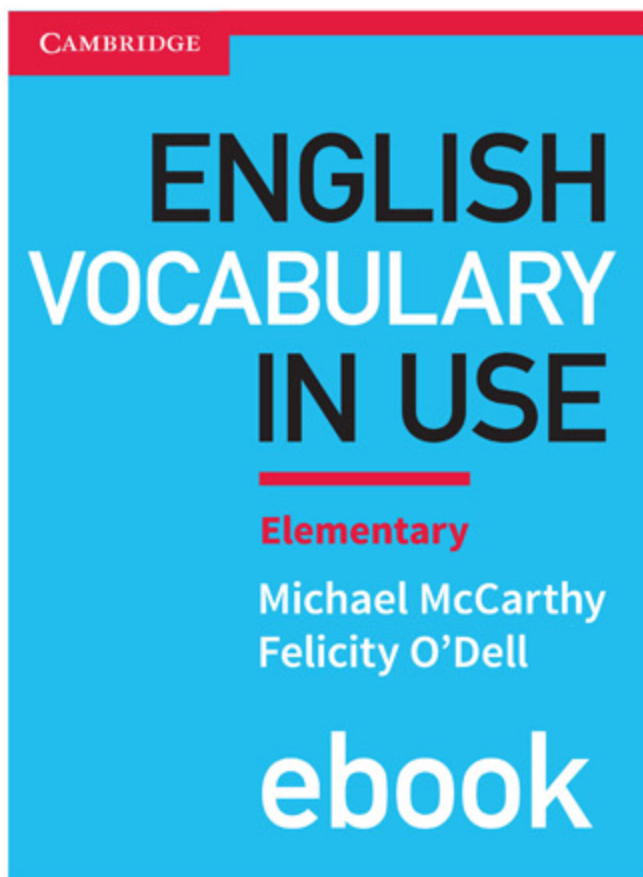
I have ..... . I/my .....  
got married in ..... (year).  
For my/his/her honeymoon, I/he/she went  
to .....

I have / My ..... has .....  
children. They were born in ..... and  
..... (years).

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