

TEACHING NOTES

4A A nice area

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Goal | talk about your city

Grammar | *there is/are*

Vocabulary | places in a city

GSE learning objective

Can say what's in a town (e.g. buildings, places) using basic words and phrases

Introduction

The goal of this lesson is for students to talk about their city. To help them achieve this, they will learn or revise *There is/are* and vocabulary related to places in a city.

Warm-up

Tell the class about your two favourite places in your town or city and your two least favourite places and say why you like/dislike them. Ask Ss to think of their two most and least favourite places where they live, and why. Give them a minute or two to choose what they are and make notes if they want to. When they are ready, put Ss in pairs to share their ideas. When they have finished, nominate a few Ss to share their ideas with the class and find out if other Ss agree.

Vocabulary and listening


1 Focus attention on the photos and elicit the answer to the first question, what they can see in the photos. Put Ss in pairs to discuss the remaining questions. When they are ready, ask a few Ss to share their answers with the class and have a brief class discussion.

2 Ss match the places with the pictures alone, then check in pairs. Monitor and help if necessary. Check answers as a class.

Answers: a theatre b police station c bus station
d stadium e train station f shops g sports centre
h post office i car park j castle k offices l garage

Vocabulary checkpoint

A *sports centre* is also sometimes called a *leisure centre* in the UK. A *garage* can be a place where cars are repaired or it can be a small building next to a house where people keep their cars or store things.

3a  4.1 Read the example with the class, then play the recording for Ss to listen and underline the stressed syllables. In feedback, write the words on the board and underline the stressed syllables (or invite Ss to the board to do so).

Answers: bus station, car park, castle, garage, offices,
police station, post office, shops, sports centre, stadium,
theatre, train station

Pronunciation checkpoint

Garage can also be pronounced /gə'ra:ʒ/ in American English.


b Play the recording again for Ss to listen and repeat the words.

4a Read the first sentence with the class as an example and highlight that two answers are possible here. Ss decide which places the rest of the sentences refer to alone then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

Answers: 1 stadium, sports centre 2 shops 3 post office
4 train station, bus station 5 garage

b Ss write sentences for three other places. Monitor and help with vocabulary and ideas if necessary, writing any new words and phrases on the board.

c When they are ready, put Ss in pairs to read out their sentences for their partner to guess. In feedback, ask Ss how many their partner guessed correctly.

5a  4.2 Play the recording for Ss to listen and note down the places in Ex 2 the speaker talks about, then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

Answers: shops, police station, train station, bus station, castle

b Ss listen again and choose the correct alternatives, then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

Answers: 1 a lot of 2 a 3 any 4 a lot of 5 some

Audioscript 4.2

So, in the centre there are a lot of shops. There's a police station and two train stations, that's good, but there isn't a bus station. There aren't any train stations in other parts of the town, such as at the castle. There are a lot of visitors to the castle, and it's difficult to get there. There's some green space near the centre which is nice.

VOCABULARY BANK 4A p139

Describing places

These optional exercises build on the lexical set in the vocabulary section.

1a Elicit the first answer as an example. Ss match the adjectives with the photos alone then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

Answers: 1 B 2 C 3 I 4 D 5 H 6 J 7 A 8 E 9 G
10 F

b Read the example with the class then Ss describe their town or city in pairs. In feedback, nominate a few Ss to share their answers with the class.

Optional alternative activity

Stronger classes can complete Ex 1a at home then do Ex 1b in the next class.

Further practice

Photocopiable activities: 4A Vocabulary, p166

Grammar

There is/are

6 Ss read the grammar box and choose the correct alternatives. Point out that they can use the examples in the box to help. Check answers as a class and be prepared to give further explanations and examples if necessary. For example, *uncountable* means you can't 'count' it e.g. *space, water*, etc.


Answers: 1 singular 2 plural 3 big 4 plural
5 uncountable


GRAMMAR BANK 4A pp.122–123

Stronger classes could read the notes at home. Otherwise, check the notes with Ss, especially the use of the verb *be* with singular, plural and uncountable nouns. In each exercise, elicit the first answer as an example. Ss work alone to complete the exercises then check their answers in pairs. In feedback, elicit Ss' answers and drill the questions. Ss can refer to the notes to help them.

Answers:

A 1 a 2 any 3 a 4 are 5 isn't 6 Are 7 some
8 a lot of 9 some 10 aren't 11 a lot of 12 Is there
B 1 a 2 aren't 3 are 4 any 5 a 6 's/is 7 are 8 of
9 any

7a  4.3 Focus attention on the linking of the words and ask Ss to follow them as you play the recording. If necessary, drill the sentences to demonstrate further. Explain that when a word ends with a consonant sound and the next word begins with a vowel sound, we link them together smoothly, as if they're one word.

b  4.4 Ss mark the linking alone then compare in pairs. Play the recording for Ss to check their answers then check answers as a class by writing the sentences on the board and drawing the linkings.

Answers:

1 There are some cafés.
2 There isn't a hospital.
3 There are a lot of parks.
4 There aren't any garages.

c Play the recording again for Ss to listen and repeat, copying the linking.

8 Ss choose the correct alternatives alone then check in pairs. Check answers with the whole class and ask if this description is similar to where they live.

Answers: 1 are 2 some 3 a 4 any 5 there's 6 isn't
7 a lot of

9a Ss complete the sentences alone, then check in pairs. Check answers as a class.

Answers: 1 a 2 a 3 lot 4 some 5 any 6 a 7 lot

b Read the example with the class. If you're from a different city to the students, then demonstrate by talking about your home town. Ss discuss which of the sentences are true for where they live. In feedback, ask a few Ss to share their answers with the class.

Further practice

Photocopiable activities: 4A Grammar 1, p164;
4A Grammar 2, p165

Speaking

Prepare

10 Divide the class in half: Student As and Bs, and then put Ss in pairs. Explain that they're planning to move to a new town and direct them to the relevant pages. Ask them to plan what to say about how many of each thing there is in each town. Monitor and help them decide what to say and which quantifiers to use if necessary.

Speak

11a Put Ss in A/B pairs with one person from each of the two groups in Ex 10. Ss take turns asking and answering about each other's town e.g. *How many shops are there? There are a lot of shops*, etc. Monitor and make notes on Ss' language use for feedback later.

b Go through the Useful phrases with the class. Ask Ss to work together to decide where they'd like to move and why. When they have finished, ask each pair to justify their decision to the class. Give Ss feedback on their use of language.

Reflection on learning

Write the following questions on the board:

What's the most difficult thing in today's lesson?

What can you do to work on this more?

Put Ss in pairs to discuss the questions. When they have finished, ask if anyone wants to share their ideas with the class, but don't force them to if they'd rather not.

Homework ideas

Grammar bank: 4A Ex A–B, p123

Workbook: Ex 1–5, p22

App: grammar and vocabulary practice

Fast route: continue to Lesson 4B

Extended route: go to p95 for Develop your writing

WORKBOOK ANSWER KEY

4A

1

Across

2 shops 4 castle 5 offices 7 police station 8 garage
9 stadium 11 bus station 12 train station

Down

1 theatre 3 post office 6 sports centre 10 car park

2

1 post office 2 shops 3 theatre 4 train station
5 bus station 6 castle 7 garage 8 stadium
9 sports centre 10 offices

3

1 any 2 's 3 aren't 4 a 5 's 6 some 7 a

4

- 1 There aren't any offices in my town.
- 2 There are some shops near my house.
- 3 Are there any shops in your village?
- 4 There isn't a post office near me.
- 5 There isn't a police station in my town.
- 6 Is there a train station in your town?
- 7 There are a lot of shops.
- 8 There's a garage over there.
- 9 Are there any good shops in your town?
- 10 Is there a car park near the bank?

5

- 1 There are a lot of museums in London.
- 2 There aren't any places for young people.
- 3 There's a cinema in my town.
- 4 There isn't a police station near here.
- 5 There's a train station next to my office.
- 6 There isn't a theatre in my city.
- 7 There aren't any garages in this area.





Photocopiable notes and answer key

4A

Grammar 1 *there is/are*

Materials: One worksheet per student

Instructions:

Distribute the worksheet. For Ex 1, read the example with the class and explain that some of the sentences are correct and some are incorrect. With **weaker classes**, you could tell them that five sentences are correct, and the rest are incorrect. Tell Ss to correct the sentences individually. Monitor and help if necessary, reminding them of the form of *there is a ... / there are some ... / there aren't any ...*. When they have finished, ask Ss to check their answers in pairs, then check with the whole class. You could invite Ss to the board to write up the corrections if they want to.

For Ex 2, put Ss in new pairs to discuss which of the sentences are true for them. Remind Ss that they shouldn't change the nouns from singular to plural or vice versa. When they have finished, elicit a few answers and find out some more information, and if they like where they live.

Answer key:

1

- 1 In my city there are a lot of shops.
- 2 There isn't a stadium in my town.
- 3 Correct
- 4 Correct
- 5 There are two hospitals in my area.
- 6 There are some parks where I live.
- 7 There aren't any offices in this part of the city.
- 8 There is a car park near my building.
- 9 Correct
- 10 There isn't a sports centre in my town.
- 11 Correct
- 12 There are some castles in my country.
- 13 There's a big theatre in my city.
- 14 Correct
- 15 Correct

Grammar 2 *there is/are*

Materials: One worksheet per group

Instructions:

Arrange the Ss in groups of three or four. Tell the class that you're going to give them a picture of a city and that they should study it for one minute and try to remember all the things they can see. Make sure they don't take notes while they are doing this. Distribute the worksheets placing one face down in the middle of each group. When Ss are ready, say *Go!* and time them for one minute. While they are studying the picture, write the following sentence beginnings on the board: *There's a / an ... , There are some / a lot of ... , There isn't a ... , There aren't any ...*. When the minute is up, collect the worksheets back in and write the following on the board: *bus station, car parks, castle, garage, offices, police station, shops, sports centre, stadium, theatre, train station*

Tell Ss they must now write sentences about the things they can remember from the picture using the sentence beginnings on the board. Tell Ss to appoint one person in the group to write their answers on a piece of paper. Stop them after three minutes and ask them to put their pens down.

Get Ss to swap papers with another group. Give the worksheets back out and ask Ss to check the other group's sentences. Tell them to award one point if the sentence is grammatically correct and another point if it's factually correct. Monitor and help, checking the sentences are formed correctly. The group with the most points wins.

Answer key:

Suggested answers:

There isn't a bus station. There are some car parks.
There's a castle. There isn't a garage.
There are some offices. There's a police station.
There are a lot of shops. There's a sports centre.
There isn't a stadium. There's a theatre.
There's a train station.

Vocabulary Places in a city

Materials: One worksheet per pair of

Instructions:

Put Ss in A/B pairs and give out a copy of the worksheet to each pair. Make sure Ss don't show each other their worksheet. For Ex 1, give Ss a minute to read the sentences and think about what word BEEP! replaces in each one. For Ex 2, explain that Ss read out their sentences for their partner to supply the missing words from the word box on their worksheet, e.g.:

Student A: There's a great BEEP! in town with a gym and a swimming pool.

Student B: (It's) sports centre

As Ss do the activity, monitor and help if required. When they have finished, ask different Ss to read out the correct sentences and check that the rest of the class agrees with them.

Answer key:

Student A

1

1 sports centre 2 car park 3 bus station 4 post office
5 theatre 6 shops

Student B

1

1 garage 2 offices 3 castle 4 stadium 5 train station
6 police station

