

# DANISH GRAMMAR

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# CONTENTS

## Nouns 3

## Verbs 7

Infinitive 7

Present Tense 9

Future Tense 9

Past Tense 10

Present Perfect 10

Auxiliary Verbs 11

Short Answers 12

At tro / at synes 14

## Adjectives 5

Comparison of Adjectives 18

## Adverbs 20

## Personal Pronouns 22

## Possessive Pronouns 23

## Reflexive Pronouns 24

## Interrogatives 25

## Word Order 26

Inversion 27

Position of Adverb in Main Clause 28

Position of Adverb in Subordinate Clause 29

## Countries and Nations 30

## Numbers 31

## The Clock 33

## Time Expressions 35

## Directions for Use of Dictionaries 37

## NOUNS

SINGULAR (ental)		PLURAL (flertal)	
<u>Indefinite (ubestemt)</u>	<u>Definite (bestemt)</u>	<u>Indefinite</u>	<u>Definite</u>
	- (e)n / - (e)t	- (e)r	- (e)rne
en kop (a cup)	koppen (the cup)	kopper (cups)	kopperne (the cups)
et æble (an apple)	æblet (the apple)	æbler (apples)	æblerne (the apples)
en pige (a girl)	pigen (the girl)	piger (girls)	pigerne (the girls)
en banan (a banana)	bananen (the banana)	bananer (bananas)	bananerne (the bananas)
en blyant (a pencil)	blyanten (the pencil)	blyanter (pencils)	blyanterne (the pencils)
	- en / - et	- e	- ene
en dreng (a boy)	drengen (the boy)	dreng (boys)	drengene (the boys)
et hus (a house)	huset (the house)	huse (houses)	husene (the houses)
en stol (a chair)	stolen (the chair)	stole (chairs)	stolene (the chairs)
et bord (a table)	bordet (the table)	borde (tables)	bordene (the tables)
	- en / - et	-	- ene
en sko (a shoe)	skoen (the shoe)	sko_ (shoes)	skoene (the shoes)
et ben (a leg)	benet (the leg)	ben_ (legs)	benene (the legs)
et løg (an onion)	løget (the onion)	løg_ (onions)	løgene (the onions)
et brød (a loaf of bread)	brødet (the bread)	brød_ (loaves of bread)	brødene (the loaves of bread)

## A: The Indefinite Article Singular

There are two genders in Danish: common gender and neuter. The indefinite article, therefore, has two forms: *et* (neuter gender) and *en* (common gender). Examples:

et hus (a house)	en mand (a man)
et barn (a child)	en forretning (a shop)
et værelse (a room)	en pige (a girl)
et fjernsyn (a TV)	en bil (a car)

There are no satisfactory rules as to the distribution of the nouns in the genders. The gender has to be learnt with the word.

In compounds, the gender is determined by the last component if this is a noun. Examples:

et træ (a tree)	et æbletræ (an apple tree)
et hus (a house)	et posthus (a post office)
en forretning (a shop)	en møbelforretning (a furniture shop)
en båd (a boat)	en sejlbåd (a sailing boat)

Danish makes more use of compound words than most other languages, practically always in an unhyphenated form. The elements are joined together sometimes to the number of three, four, or more, forming words of a length unknown in English. Examples:

arbejdsløshedsunderstøttelse (unemployment benefit)  
 energiforsyningsituationen (energy supply situation)

A compound word is sometimes joined together with an *-s*. Examples:

en skrivebordsstol (a desk chair)  
 en fødselsdagsfest (a birthday party)

### Note 1

No article is used in front of a predicate signifying a person's nation, occupation, religion, etc. Examples:

Han er amerikaner (he is an American/American)  
 Hun er dansker (she is a Dane/Danish)  
 Jeg er student (I am a student)  
 Hun er lærer (she is a teacher)  
 Han er katolik (he is a Catholic)

## B: The Definite Article Singular

Danish has an inflectional ending to express definite form:

-et is added in the neuter gender

-en is added in the common

Examples:

<u>et</u> hus (a house)	hus <u>et</u> (the house)
<u>et</u> værelse (a room)	værel <u>set</u> (the room)
<u>en</u> pige (a girl)	pig <u>en</u> (the girl)
<u>en</u> forretning (a shop)	forretning <u>en</u> (the shop)

When a noun is preceded by an adjective the inflectional ending is **not** used.

## C: The Plural

The plural of nouns is formed in three different ways by adding:

-e

-(e)r

Examples:

et hus (a house)	hus <u>e</u> (houses)
en dreng (a boy)	dreng <u>e</u> (boys)
en pige (a girl)	pig <u>er</u> (girls)
et vindue (a window)	vindue <u>r</u> (windows)
et glas (a glass)	glas <u>e</u> (glasses)
en sten (a stone)	sten <u>e</u> (stones)

Like in English, a few nouns have vowel mutation in the plural. Examples:

en mand (a man)	mænd (men)
en hånd (a hand)	hænder (hands)
en bror (a brother)	brødre (brothers)
en mor (a mother)	mødre (mothers)
en bog (a book)	bøger (books)
et barn (a child)	børn (children)

### Note 2

If you do not know the plural of a noun you have to look it up in the Danish-English dictionary. Examples:

*hus* in the dictionary: hus (et - e) = et hus, huse

*glas* in the dictionary: glas (et - ) = et glas, glase

*mor* in the dictionary: se moder = look up moder. Moder (en, mødre)

## D: The Definite Article in the Plural

- *ne* is added to the plural indefinite form. Nouns which have no plural ending add - *ene*. Examples:

huse (houses)	husene (the houses)
piger (girls)	pigerne (the girls)
glas (glasses)	glassene (the glasses)
mænd (men)	mændene (the men)
hænder (hands)	hænderne (the hands)
børn (children)	børnene (the children)

A few exceptions to the rules:

Singular		Plural	
indefinite	definite	indefinite	definite
en cykel	cyklen	cykler	cyklerne
en kartoffel	kartoflen	kartofler	kartoflerne
en vinter	vinteren	vintre	vintrene
et teater	teateret	teatre	teatrene
en søster	søsteren	søstre	søstrene
et gymnasium	gymnasiet	gymnasier	gymnasierne
et kollegium	kollegiet	kollegier	kollegierne
et museum	museet	museer	museerne

All nouns ending in -el, -er, -um follow the rule shown above.

### Note 3

penge / pengene: PLURAL in Danish

money / the money: SINGULAR in English

much money = mange penge

tøj / tøjet: SINGULAR in Danish

clothes / the clothes: PLURAL in English

## E: The Possessive

The possessive ending is always -s (without an apostrophe) both in the singular and the plural. Examples:

Toms familie (Tom's family)

Toms værelse (Tom's room)

Børnenes far (the children's father)

Bilens farve (the color of the car)

Husets vinduer (the windows of the house)

Amerikas forenede stater (The United States of America)

## VERBS

### 1. REGULAR VERBS

There are two conjugations of regular verbs in Danish:

#### 1. conjugation: (-ede, -et)

Infinitive	Present tense	Past tense	Present perfect	Imperative
-e	-er/-r	-ede	-et	-
at male = to paint	jeg mal <u>er</u>	jeg mal <u>ede</u>	jeg har mal <u>et</u>	mal!
at vaske = to wash	jeg vask <u>er</u>	jeg vask <u>ede</u>	jeg har vask <u>et</u>	vask!
at hente = to fetch	jeg hent <u>er</u>	jeg hent <u>ede</u>	jeg har hent <u>et</u>	hent!
at arbejde = to work	jeg arbejd <u>er</u>	jeg arbejd <u>ede</u>	jeg har arbejd <u>et</u>	arbejd!
at lukke = to close	jeg lukk <u>er</u>	jeg lukk <u>ede</u>	jeg har lukk <u>et</u>	luk!
at tro = to believe	jeg tror	jeg tro <u>ede</u>	jeg har tro <u>et</u>	tro!
at bo = to live	jeg bo <u>r</u>	jeg bo <u>ede</u>	jeg har bo <u>et</u>	bo!

#### 2. conjugation: (-te, -t)

Infinitive	Present tense	Past tense	Present perfect	Imperative
-e	-er/-r	-te	-t	-
at køre = to drive	jeg kør <u>er</u>	jeg kør <u>te</u>	jeg har kør <u>t</u>	kør!
at tænke = to think	jeg tænk <u>er</u>	jeg tænk <u>te</u>	jeg har tænk <u>t</u>	tænk!
at høre = to hear	jeg hør <u>er</u>	jeg hør <u>te</u>	jeg har hør <u>t</u>	hør!
at læse = to read	jeg læs <u>er</u>	jeg læs <u>te</u>	jeg har læs <u>t</u>	læs!
at begynde = to begin	jeg begy <u>nder</u>	jeg begy <u>ndte</u>	jeg er begy <u>ndt</u>	begynd!
at spise = to eat	jeg spis <u>er</u>	jeg spis <u>te</u>	jeg har spis <u>t</u>	spis!
at rejse = to travel	jeg rej <u>ser</u>	jeg rej <u>ste</u>	jeg har rej <u>st</u>	rejs!

Most Danish verbs follow the first conjugation. The Danish-English dictionary tells you whether a verb belongs to the first or second conjugation or whether it is irregular. Examples:

lege: play (1. conj., -ede in the past)

dele: divide (2. conj., -te in the past)

syngte: (sang, sunget): sing (irregular, conjugated in the dictionary)

### A: The Infinitive (Infinitiv)

The infinitive always ends in -e, unless the stem of the verb (identical with the imperative) ends in a vowel: at nå (to reach), at bo (to live), at sy (to sew).

In Danish the infinitive is often used where in English the '-ing form' (= present participle) would be used.

Jeg hørte ham komme (I heard him coming)

Hun elsker at danse (she loves dancing)

De har lyst til at løbe (they feel like running)

In Danish the infinitive may be governed by all prepositions.

Han er træt af at læse (he is tired of reading)

Jeg tænker på at rejse (I'm thinking of travelling)

Hun gik uden at svare (she left without answering)

#### Note 4

In Danish a whole phrase is often used in places where an infinitive would be sufficient in English.

Jeg sagde til ham, at han skulle gå (I told him to leave)

Jeg ved ikke, hvordan jeg skal gøre det (I don't know how to do it)

#### Note 5

It is often a problem for English speaking people to tell the difference between the infinitive and the present, because the two forms are identical in English, unless the subject is in the 3. person, singular, in which case the verb in the present ends in -s. Examples:

1: I get up at 7 (present) / I must get up at 7 (infinitive)

2: He gets up at 7 (present) / he must get up at 7 (infinitive)

In the first example the present and the infinitive are identical (get, get). In the second example you can tell the difference (gets, get). In Danish the infinitive and the present tense are *never* identical. Usually the present ends in -r and the infinitive in -e. So if you are in doubt, say the phrase in English in the present tense using he or she as the subject. If the verb gets an -s, you know it is the present and not the infinitive.

#### Note 6

If you have a phrase containing one of the following auxiliary verbs:

kan skal vil må (present)

kunne skulle ville måtte (past)

then the verb (verbs) governed by the auxiliary verb is *always* in the infinitive. Examples:

Hun kan ikke læse (she cannot read)

Vi ville gerne rejse (we wanted to travel)

Skal du arbejde i aften? (are you working tonight?)

Han måtte ikke drikke øl (he was not allowed to drink beer)



## B: The Present Tense (Nutid)

In regular verbs the present tense is always formed by adding -r to the infinitive. The present tense is identical in all persons, singular and plural.

In Danish the present tense is used more extensively than in English. Its main uses are:

### 1: To express what is happening at the moment

Han vasker op (he is doing the dishes now)

Hun arbejder i haven (she is working in the garden)

### 2: To express what happens regularly or frequently

Han vasker op hver aften (he does the dishes every evening)

Hun arbejder altid i haven om søndagen (she always works in the garden on Sundays)

### 3: To express future events

Han kommer i morgen (he will come tomorrow)

Vi rejser til USA næste sommer (we will go to the US next summer)

#### Note 7

The fact that something is being done at the moment may sometimes be expressed by other means.

Hun er ved at læse en bog (she is reading a book)

Han er ved at vaske op (he is doing the dishes)

Or it may be expressed by denoting the position in which a person is doing something.

Hun sidder og læser (she is reading (sitting))

Hun står og taler (he is talking (standing))

Hun ligger og sover (she is sleeping (lying))

Han går og synger (he is singing (walking around))

## C: Future Tense (Fremtid)

Future tense is either expressed by means of the present tense or by means of the auxiliary verbs: 'skal' or 'vil' (will). However, these words sometimes have the implication of 'having to' (skal) og 'wishing to' (vil). This is expressed by stressing the auxiliary verb:

Jeg besøger ham i morgen.

Jeg vil besøge ham i morgen.

Jeg skal besøge ham i morgen.

All three of them could be translated by 'I'm going to visit him tomorrow', but they have the different implications mentioned.

**Note 8**

at blive (bliver, blev, er blevet) functions as a kind of future tense of the verb 'at være' (to be).

Drengen er tre år. Han bliver fire i januar. (The boy is three years old. He will be four in January.)

As a parallel to this, at få (får, fik, har fået) functions as a kind of future tense of the verb 'at have' (to have).

Pigen har en gammel cykel. Hun får en ny til sin fødselsdag. (The girl has an old bicycle. She will have a new one for her birthday.)

**D: The Past Tense (Datid)**

Verbs belonging to the first conjugation form the past tense by adding -de or -ede to the infinitive.

Verbs belonging to the second conjugation form the past tense by adding -te to the stem of the verb (i.e. the infinitive minus -e). Like the present tense, the past tense is identical in all persons, singular and plural.

**Note 9**

The English forms: 'he is/was walking' and 'they are/were asking'

have no equivalent in Danish. Usually the ordinary present tense/past tense cover the meaning of these forms in Danish.

**E: The Present Perfect and the Past Perfect tenses (før nutid, før datid)**

Verbs belonging to the first conjugation form the present perfect and the pluperfect by adding -et to the stem of the verb and combining it with the auxiliary verb 'har' (present) or 'havde' (past).

Present perfect: Hun har vasket (she has washed)

Past perfect: Hun havde vasket (she had washed)

Verbs belonging to the second conjugation form the present perfect and the pluperfect by adding -t to the stem of the verb and combining it with 'har' or 'havde'.

Present perfect: Jeg har spist (I have eaten)

Past perfect: Jeg havde spist (I had eaten)

**Note 10**

For verbs of motion and for the verbs: blive (become) and begynde (begin), the auxiliary verb used in the perfect and pluperfect tenses is 'er' (present) and 'var' (past):

Pres. perf.: jeg er kommet (I have come)

Past perf.: jeg var kommet (I had come)

Pres. perf.: hun er gået (she has gone)

Past perf.: hun var gået (she had gone)

Pres. perf.: de er blevet gamle (they have become old)

Past perf.: de var blevet gamle (they had become old)

Pres. perf.: han er begyndt (he has begun)

Past perf.: han var begyndt (he had begun)

## 2: AUXILIARY VERBS

Infinitive	Present	Past	Present Perfect
at have (to have)	har	havde	har haft
at være (to be)	er	var	har været
at blive (to become)	bliver	blev	er blevet
at kunne (to be able to)	kan	kunne	har kunnet
at skulle (to have to)	skal	skulle	har skullet
at ville (to want to)	vil	ville	har villet
at måtte (to be allowed to)	må	måtte	har måttet

### Note 11

The infinitive and the past tense of 'kunne, skulle, ville, måtte' are identical.

**at have:** is used as an auxiliary verb forming the perfect and the pluperfect tenses of most verbs.

Examples:

jeg har været i USA (I have been to the US)  
 hvis jeg havde haft min cykel ... (if I had had my bicycle ...)  
 hun har ikke set ham (she has not seen him)

**at være:** is used as an auxiliary verb for forming the perfect and pluperfect tenses of all verbs of motion, as well as of the verbs 'at blive' (to become), 'at begynde' (to begin), and 'at ske' (to happen). Examples:

Han er gået (he has gone)  
 Han er begyndt (she has begun)  
 Det er sket (it has happened)  
 Vi er blevet fattige (we have become poor)

**at blive:** is used as an auxiliary verb to form the passive voice. Examples:

Huset bliver malet (the house is being painted)  
 Han blev arresteret (he was arrested)

### Note 12

The verb 'blive' means 'become', but it also has the meaning of 'is going to be' or 'will be', i.e. it is used as a kind of future tense of the verb 'at være' (to be). Examples:

Det bliver dyrt (it will be expensive)  
 Hun bliver glad (she will be delighted)

### Note 13

In addition, the verb 'at blive' means 'to stay' or 'to remain'. Examples:

Han blev her i en uge (he stayed here for a week)  
 Vil du blive i Danmark? (Will you stay in Denmark?)

**Note 14**

Note the distinction between the use of 'være' and 'blive' with adjectives; the former denotes a state, the latter a change of state. Examples:

Han var forelsket (he was in love)

Han blev forelsket (he fell in love)

**at skulle:** In Danish the main verb may sometimes be omitted after 'vil' and 'skal'. Examples:

Hvor skal du hen? (Where are you going?)

Jeg vil hjem (I want to go home)

Vil du med? (Are you coming? (literally: will you with?))

Jeg skal på arbejde (I have to go to work)

**at ville:** Note that 'vil gerne' corresponds to 'would like to'. Example:

Jeg vil gerne møde ham (I would like to meet him)

**at måtte:** Occasionally the verb 'må' means 'must'. Usually it means 'may'. To avoid ambiguity 'må' is frequently followed by the adverb 'gerne' or 'godt' when it has the meaning of 'may'.

Examples:

Du må komme i morgen (you must come tomorrow)

Du må gerne/godt komme i morgen (you may come tomorrow)

**Note 15**

In questions 'må' always means 'may', whereas 'must' is normally expressed by 'skal'. Examples:

Må jeg komme? (may I come?)

Skal jeg komme? (must I come?)

**3: SHORT ANSWERS**

Instead of repeating a whole question or a whole phrase (as many students have been taught in language classes) we construct short answers exactly the way you do in English:

A: Tom studies economics, doesn't he?

B: Yes, he does

A: Tom studerer økonomi, ikke?

B: Jo, det gør han

A: Tom is American, isn't he?

B: Yes, he is

A: Tom er amerikaner, ikke?

B: Jo, det er han

All modal and auxiliary verbs in all tenses are repeated in the answer. The verb 'at gøre' (to do) substitutes all other verbs.

Verb in the QUESTION		Verb in the ANSWER	
<i>present</i>	<i>past</i>	<i>present</i>	<i>past</i>
kan	kunne	kan	kunne
skal	skulle	skal	skulle
vil	ville	vil	ville
må	måtte	må	måtte
er	var	er	var
har	havde	har	havde
kommer	kom	gør	gjorde
hedder	hed	gør	gjorde
studerer	studerede	gør	gjorde
cykler	cyklede	gør	gjorde
etc.	etc.	gør	gjorde

## Examples:

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Henrik <u>kan</u> godt lide frikadeller, ikke? | Jo, det <u>kan</u> han    |
| 2. Tom <u>kunne</u> forstå lidt dansk, ikke?      | Jo, det <u>kunne</u> han  |
| 3. Tom <u>skal</u> i Tivoli i aften, ikke?        | Jo, det <u>skal</u> han   |
| 4. Tom <u>skulle</u> til koncert i går, ikke?     | Jo, det <u>skulle</u> han |
| 5. Tom <u>vil</u> gerne i Tivoli, ikke?           | Jo, det <u>vil</u> han    |
| 6. Tom <u>ville</u> rejse til Norge alene, ikke?  | Jo, det <u>ville</u> han  |
| 7. Mette <u>må</u> godt få en is, ikke            | Jo, det <u>må</u> hun     |
| 8. Mette <u>måtte</u> godt få en is, ikke         | Jo, det <u>måtte</u> hun  |
| 9. Det <u>er</u> koldt i dag, ikke?               | Jo, det <u>er</u> det     |
| 10. Der <u>var</u> varmt i går, ikke?             | (Jo, det <u>var</u> det   |
| 11. Tom <u>har</u> en dansk søster, ikke?         | Jo, det <u>har</u> han    |
| 12. Tom <u>havde</u> ondt i hovedet, ikke?        | Jo, det <u>havde</u> han  |
| 13. Tom <u>kommer</u> fra USA, ikke?              | Jo, det <u>gør</u> han    |
| 14. Tom <u>studerer</u> økonomi, ikke?            | Jo, det <u>gør</u> han    |
| 15. Toms danske mor <u>hedder</u> Lisbeth, ikke?  | Jo, det <u>gør</u> hun    |
| 16. Det <u>regner</u> idag, ikke?                 | Jo, det <u>gør</u> det    |
| 17. Solen <u>skinner</u> i dag, ikke              | Jo, det <u>gør</u> den    |
| 18. Tom <u>kom</u> fra USA, ikke?                 | Jo, det <u>gjorde</u> han |
| 19. Lisbeth <u>købte</u> bananer i går, ikke      | Jo, det <u>gjorde</u> hun |
| 20. Tom og Steve <u>skrev</u> opgave i går, ikke  | Jo, det <u>gjorde</u> de  |
| 21. Det <u>regnede</u> i går, ikke?               | Jo, det <u>gjorde</u> det |
| 22. Bussen <u>kørte</u> klokken 22.30, ikke       | Jo, det <u>gjorde</u> den |

Whenever the question is negative, the tag question is 'vel?' (comparable to the American 'right?')

Examples:

Du studerer ikke økonomi, vel?	Nej, det gør jeg ikke
Der er ikke mere øl, vel?	Nej, der er der ikke
Du spiller aldrig tennis, vel?	Jo, det gør jeg

#### 4: AT TRO / At SYNES = to think

**At tro** is always used about future. Examples:

Jeg tror, han kommer i morgen. (I think he is coming tomorrow)  
 Jeg tror, jeg tager til Sverige på lørdag. (I think I will be going to Sweden next Saturday)

**At tro** is used about guessing, qualified guessing, belief, when no certified knowledge is at hand.

Examples:

Hvor gammel tror du, han er? (How old do you think he is?)  
 Jeg tror, bogen koster 88 kr. (I think the book costs 88 kroner)  
 Jeg tror, hun bor på Frederiksberg. (I think she lives at Frederiksberg)

**At synes** is used about personal assessments, evaluations based on experience, etc. Examples:

Jeg synes, dansk øl smager godt. (I think Danish beer tastes fine)  
 Synes du, farven er pæn? (Do you think it is a nice color?)  
 Jeg synes, han ser gammel ud. (I think he looks old)

In many situations you must choose between **tror** and **synes** according to personal experience (1) / no personal experience (2). Examples:

1. Jeg synes, fransk er svært. (I think French is difficult)
2. Jeg tror, fransk er svært. (I think French is difficult)

1. indicates that you have studied French yourself
2. indicates that you have not studied French yourself, but have an idea about how difficult it is.

1. Jeg synes, bogen er spændende. (I think the book is interesting)
2. Jeg tror, bogen er spændende. (I think the book is interesting)

1. You have read the book yourself
2. You have not read the book, but you have heard about it.

## ADJECTIVES

	SINGULAR		PLURAL	
	Indefinite form	Definite form	Indefinite form	Definite form
<b>Adjective right before noun</b>	en stor bil <i>(a big car)</i>	den store bil <i>(the big car)</i>	store biler <i>(big cars)</i>	de store biler <i>(the big cars)</i>
		min store bil <i>(my big car)</i>		deres store biler <i>(their big cars)</i>
		Peters store bil <i>(Peter's big car)</i>		Peters store biler <i>(Peter's big cars)</i>
	et stort hus <i>(a big house)</i>	det store hus <i>(the big house)</i>	store huse <i>(big houses)</i>	de store huse <i>(the big houses)</i>
		hendes store hus <i>(her big house)</i>		deres store huse <i>(their big houses)</i>
	Jensens store hus <i>(Jensen's big house)</i>		Jensens store huse <i>(Jensen's big houses)</i>	
-----				
<b>Adjective separated from the noun</b>	en bil er stor <i>(a car is big)</i>	bilen er stor <i>(the car is big)</i>	biler er store <i>(cars are big)</i>	bilerne er store <i>(the cars are big)</i>
	et hus er stort <i>(a house is big)</i>	huset er stort <i>(the house is big)</i>	huse er store <i>(houses are big)</i>	husene er store <i>(the houses are big)</i>

### A: POSITION OF ADJECTIVE

#### 1: The adjective is separated from the word it describes.

Example: he is sick, they are tired, the dog is thirsty, the situation is hopeless, the mountains are high

In Danish:

**Common gender** ('en' nouns, jeg, du, han, hun)

Jeg er syg (I am sick)

Han er syg (he is sick)

Manden er syg (the man is sick)

Rule: Use the basic form of the adjective as you find it in the dictionary.

**Neuter ('et' nouns, det)**

Huset er rødt (the house is red)

Det er rødt (it is red)

Barnet er sygt (the child is sick)

Rule: *Add -t to the adjective*

**Plural**

Rule: Here we do not distinguish between the two genders. *All adjectives end in -e.*

Mændene er trætte (the men are tired)

De er trætte (they are tired)

Bjergene er høje (the mountains are high)

**2: The adjective stands right before the word it describes.**

Example: A big man, a red house, big men, red houses, etc.

**Common gender:**

Rule: When you start with 'en' and then have an adjective, *use the basic form of the adjective:*

en høj kvinde (a tall woman)

en moderne lejlighed (a modern apartment)

**Neuter:**

Rule: When you start with 'et' and then have the adjective, *add -t to the adjective:*

et stort hus (a big house)

et smukt billede (a beautiful picture)

The same rules apply whenever an adjective without an article precedes a singular noun of common gender or neuter, respectively:

good food: god mad (mad (en));

white paper: hvidt papir (papir (et)).

**In all other cases** the adjective ends in -e.

This means that whenever an adjective is preceded by: den, det, de, min/mit/mine, din/dit/dine, sin/sit/sine, hans, hendes, dens, dets, vores, jeres, deres - or the possessive form of nouns or names, *the adjective adds -e.* Examples:

den gule bluse (the yellow blouse)

mit nye ur (my new watch)

hendes store hund (her big dog)

vores gamle hus (our old house)

min søsters sorte cykel (my sister's black bicycle)

Janet's nye adresse (Janet's new address)

**Note 15**

Whenever an adjective describes a word in the plural it ends in -e.



### 3: Exceptions to the rules mentioned above

1. Adjectives ending in an -e (in the basic form never change. They always end in -e (stille, moderne).

Examples: en moderne lejlighed (a modern apartment)  
et moderne hus (a modern house)

2. Adjectives ending in -sk (in the basic form) never add -t.

Examples: en dansk skole (a Danish school)  
et dansk barn (a Danish child)

3. Most adjectives which end in a vowel in the basic form do not add the ending -e in the plural.

Examples: en blå skjorte (a blue shirt)  
to blå skjorter (two blue shirts)

4. Adjectives ending in -el, -en, -er lose their -e when they add another -e at the end.

Examples: en gammel hat (an old hat)  
min gamle hat (my old hat)  
en doven student (a lazy student)  
to dovne studenter (two lazy students)  
jeg er sikker (I am sure)  
vi er sikre (we are sure)

5. Adjectives ending in -et change the final -t into -d- when the ending -e is added.

Examples: en snavset bil (a dirty car)  
to snavsede biler (two dirty cars)

#### Note 16

The adjective 'lille' (little, small) has an irregular plural form: 'små'

Examples: en lille pige (a little girl)  
to små piger (two little girls)  
små børn (little children)

#### Note 17

In Danish, adjectives are often used substantively, without any supporting word.

Examples: Giv mig bogen - ikke den røde, den grønne (Give me the book - not the red one, the green one)  
Mange unge er arbejdsløse (Many young people are unemployed)  
Vi så to film i går - den sidste varede en time (We saw two films yesterday - the last one lasted one hour)

**Note 18**

The definite form of the adjective ends in -e, and the definite article is *den* or *det* in the singular and *de* in the plural, whenever you use an adjective before the noun. But with the adjective 'hel' (whole) it is different - we leave out the article and use the definite form of the noun. Examples:

en hel dag (a whole day) - hele dagen (the whole day)

et helt år (a whole year) - hele året (the whole year)

**B: COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES****1: The pattern of comparison**

1. varm(t)	1. warm	
2. varmere	2. warmer	(comparative)
3. varmest	3. warmest	(superlative)

1. billig(t)	1. cheap	
2. billigere	2. cheaper	(comparative)
3. billigst	3. cheapest	(superlative)

Notice that the ending in the 3rd degree for 'varm' is -est, for 'billig' -st.

Rule: One-syllable words usually add -est in the third degree; two-syllable (or more) words add -st.

**Note 19**

The 2nd and 3rd degree words are complete adjectives in themselves and so follow the rules for the inflexion of adjectives.

1. The 2nd degree words (varmere, billigere, etc.) never change because they end in an -e
2. The 3rd degree words (varmest, billigst) add the usual adjectival -e in the definite forms and in the plural. Examples:

den varmeste sommer (the warmest summer)

de billigste hatte (the cheapest hats)

**Note 20**

Adjectives of 3 syllables or more usually form their comparative degrees by using 'mere' (more) and 'mest' (most)

1. optimistisk	1. optimistic
2. mere optimistisk	2. more optimistic
3. mest optimistisk	3. most optimistic

Exception: Adjectives ending in -lig tend to form their comparative degrees by the usual endings (-ere and -st) regardless of their number of syllables.

**Note 21**

Comparison showing a diminution in degree is expressed by the words 'mindre' (less) and 'mindst' (least). Example: Her er mindre varmt (here is less warm)

**Note 22**

The comparative (2nd degree) is usually followed by 'end' (than). Example: Janet er højere end Carol (Janet is taller than Carol)

**Note 23**

When a comparison is made between two things, without the use of the word 'end' (than), the superlative (3rd degree) is used to describe the higher degree. Example: Hvem er højest, Janet eller Carol? (Who is taller, Janet or Carol?)

**2: Irregular Comparison**

Some adjectives have an irregular comparison in Danish. The most important ones are listed below:

stor	større	størst	(big-bigger-biggest)
lille	mindre	mindst	(small-smaller-smallest)
god	bedre	bedst	(good-better-best)
ond	værre	værst	(bad, evil-worse-worst)
meget	mere	mest	(much-more-most)
lidt	mindre	mindst	(many-more-most)
mange	flere	flest	(many-more-most)
få	færre	færrest	(few-fewer-fewest)
gammel	ældre	ældst	(old-older-oldest)
ung	yngre	yngst	(young-younger-youngest)
lang	længere	længst	(long-longer-longest)
nær	nærmere	nærmest	(near-nearer-nearest)

**Note 24**

In English there is no difference between the comparative degrees of 'much' and 'many' (more, most). In Danish you must distinguish 'countable' and 'uncountable'. Examples:

Der er mere brød i skabet (there is more bread in the cupboard) (brød: uncountable)

Der var flere mennesker i går (there were more people yesterday) (mennesker: countable).

## ADVERBS

Frequent Danish adverbs:

ikke	not
altid	always
aldrig	never
sommetider	sometimes
ofte	often
tit	often
kun	only
gerne	gladly
næsten	almost
måske	maybe
endnu	still
lidt	a little
godt	well
snart	soon
især	especially
heldigvis	luckily

The neuter form of the adjective is used as an adverb similar to English -ly. Examples:

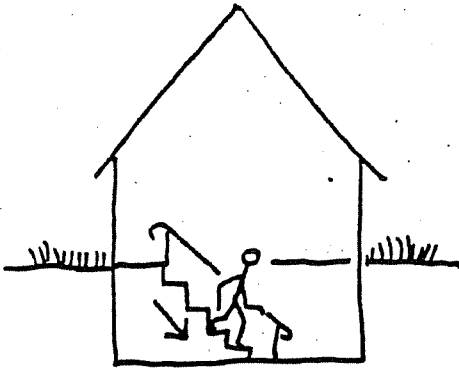
De går langsomt (they walk slowly)

Det er dejligt varmt i dag (it is wonderfully warm today)

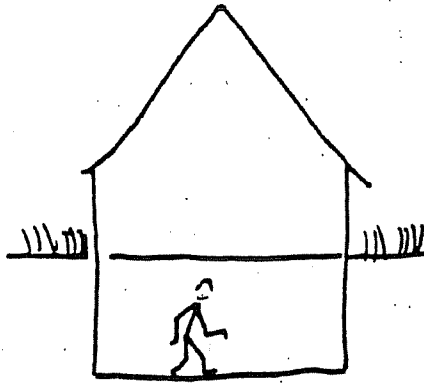
Han gjorde det hurtigt (he did it quickly)

The following Danish adverbs of place have two forms, a short form which indicates movement from one place to another, and a long form which indicates rest or movement inside the area in question:

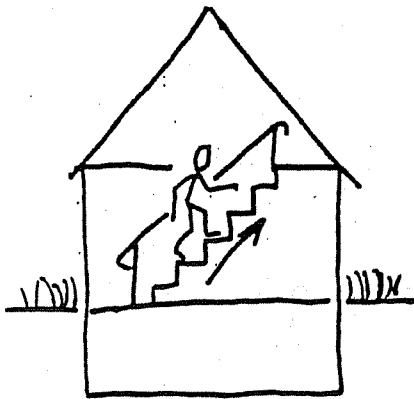
Short form	Long form
ud (out)	ude
ind (in)	inde
op (up)	oppe
ned (down)	nede
hen	henne
hjem (home)	hjemme (at home)



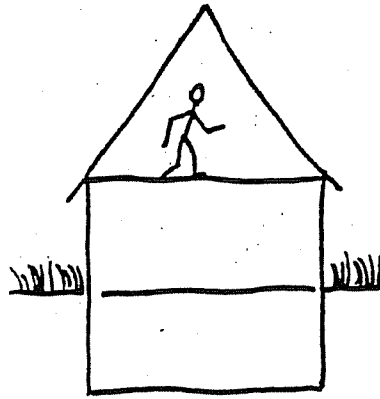
Han går ned i kælderen



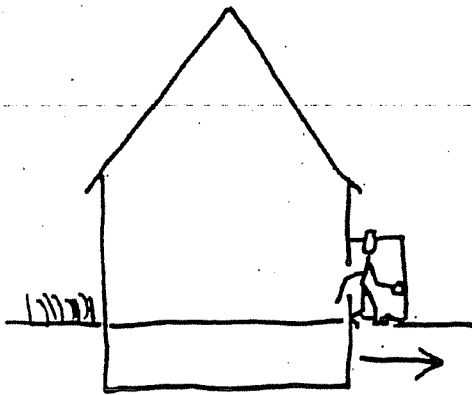
Han går nede i kælderen



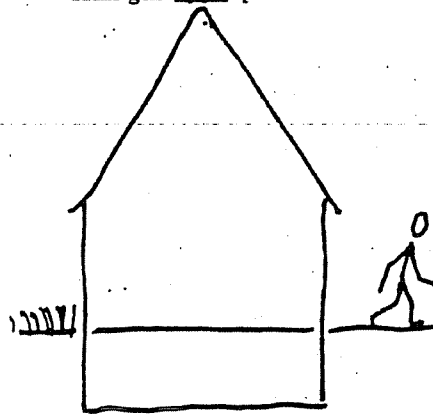
Han går op på loftet



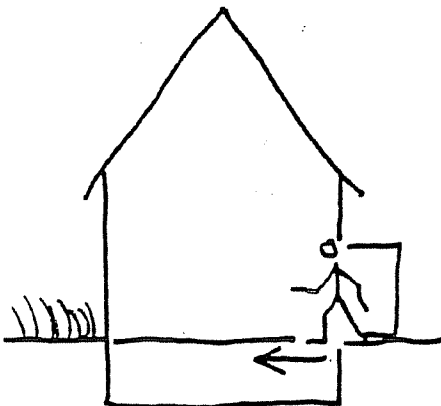
Han går oppe på loftet



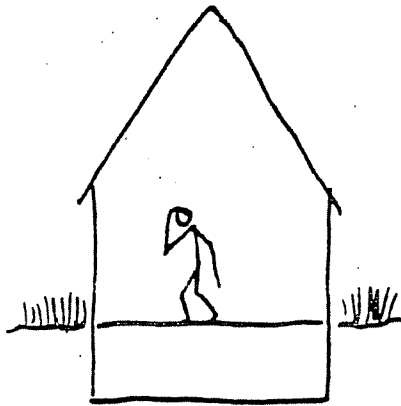
Hen går ud på gaden



Han går ude på gaden



Han går ind i huset



Han går inde i huset

## PERSONAL PRONOUNS

### 1: SUBJECT FORM

Singular	Examples	
1. jeg = I	jeg kommer fra Danmark	(I come from Denmark)
2. du = you	hvor kommer du fra, Jane?	(where do you come from, Jane?)
De = you (formal)	hvor kommer De fra, hr. Schmidt?	(where do you come from, Mr. Schmidt?)
3. han = he	han hedder John	(his name is John/he is called John)
hun = she	hun hedder Karen	(her name is Karen/she is called Karen)
den = it	hvor er koppen? Den er her	(where is the cup? It is here)
det = it	hvor er glasset? Det er her	(where is the glass? It is here)

### Plural

1. vi = we	vi skal tale dansk i klassen	(we must speak Danish in class)
2. I = you	taler I dansk, John og Karen?	(do you speak Danish, John and Karen?)
De = you (formal)	taler De dansk, hr. og fru S?	(do you speak Danish, Mr. and Mrs. S?)
3. de = they	de taler dansk sammen	(they speak Danish together)

### 2: OBJECT FORM

Singular	Examples	
1. mig = me	vil du hjælpe mig?	(will you help me?)
2. dig = you	skal jeg hjælpe dig, Karen?	(shall I help you, Karen?)
Dem = you (formal)	skal jeg hjælpe Dem, fru S?	(shall I help you, Mrs. S?)
3. ham = him	kender du ham?	(do you know him?)
hende = her	nej, men jeg kender hende	(no, but I know her)
den = it	giv mig den! (koppen)	(give me! (the cup))
det = it	giv mig det! (glasset)	(give it to me! (the glass))

### Plural

1. os = us	vil du hjælpe os?	(will you help us?)
2. jer = you	skal jeg hjælpe jer, Bill og John?	(shall I help you, Bill and John?)
Dem = you (formal)	skal jeg hjælpe Dem, hr. og fru S?	(shall I help you, Mr. and Mrs. S?)
3. dem = them	hvor er Karen og John? Jeg skal tale med den.	(where are Karen and John? I have to talk to them)

## POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

Singular:	MIN, MIT, MINE	my, mine
	DIN, DIT, DINE	your, yours
	HANS - SIN, SIT, SINE	his
	HENDES - SIN, SIT, SINE	her, hers
	DENS, DETS - SIN, SIT, SINE	its
Plural:	VORES	our, ours
	JERES	your, yours
	DERES	their, theirs

**Note 25:** The possessive pronouns in the 1st and 2nd persons singular are inflected in gender and number, according to the nouns they are attached to.

**Examples:**

En bog. Det er min bog (it is my book)

Et æble. Det er mit æble (it is my apple)

Plural: Det er mine bøger (they are my books)

En søster. Hvor bor din søster? (Where does your sister live?)

The reflexive possessive SIN, SIT, SINE is used in the 3rd person instead of HANS, HENDES, DENS, DETS when referring to the subject.

**Examples:**

Peter skriver et brev til sin bror = Peter skriver et brev til Peters bror. (Peter is writing a letter to his own brother)

Peter skriver et brev til hans bror = Peter skriver et brev til Toms bror (Peter is writing a letter to his (Tom's) brother)

Janne leget med sit barn = Janne leger med Jannes barn (Janne is playing with her (own) child)

Janne leger med hendes barn = Janne leger med Ullas barn (Janne is playing with her (Ulla's) child)

Janne skriver et brev til sine forældre = Janne skriver et brev til Jannes forældre (Janne is writing a letter to her (own) parents)

Janne skriver et brev til hendes forældre = Janne skriver et brev til Lynns forældre (Janne is writing a letter to her (Lynn's) parents)

**Note 26:** It is always HANS / HENDES when the possessive pronoun is subject or part of the subject.

**Examples:**

Hendes sweater er rød (her sweater is red)

Hans sweater er grøn (his sweater is green)

Janet og hendes veninde taler engelsk (Janet and her girlfriend speak English)

Peter og hans bror bor i København (Peter and his brother live in Copenhagen)

## REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

The use of Danish reflexive pronouns corresponds to the English usage.

<b>Examples:</b> jeg slog mig	(I hurt myself)
du slog dig	(you hurt yourself)
han / hun slog sig	(he / she hurt him / herself)
vi slog os	(we hurt ourselves)
I slog jer	(you hurt yourselves)
de slog sig	(they hurt themselves)

Apart from that, a number of important Danish verbs are constructed reflexively:

**at glæde sig til** (to look forward to)

Hun glæder sig til sin fødselsdag (she is looking forward to her birthday)

**at kede sig** (to be bored)

Keder du dig? (are you bored?)

**at bryde sig om** (to care for, to like)

Han bryder sig ikke om øl (he does not like beer)

Bryder han sig om øl? (Does he like beer?)

**at skynde sig** (to hurry)

Jeg skal skynde mig (I am in a hurry)

**at forandre sig** (to change)

De har forandret sig (they have changed)

**at vaske sig** (to wash (oneself))

Vi har vasket os (we have washed ourselves)

**at more sig** (to enjoy oneself, to have a good time)

Jeg morede mig til festen (I had a good time at the party)

**at vænne sig til** (to get accustomed to)

Har du vænnet dig til dansk mad? (Have you got accustomed to Danish food?)

**NOTE 27:** **at bryde sig om** (to like, to care for) is only used in questions and in negative statements

Jeg bryder mig ikke om at fiske (I don't like fishing)

Bryder du dig om at sejle? (Do you like sailing?)



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**INTERROGATIVES**


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HVAD	what
HVEM	who, whom
HVOR	where
HVORFOR	why
HVORNAR	when
HVORDAN	how
HVIS	whose
HVOR MEGET	how much
HVOR MANGE	how many
HVOR GAMMEL	how old
HVOR OFTE	how often
HVOR TIT	how often

Singular formal speech / colloquial speech:

HVILKEN / HVAD FOR EN	which
HVILKET / HVAD FOR ET	which

Plural formal speech / colloquial speech

HVILKE	which
HVOR LANG (the length of a table / time)	how long
HVOR LÆNGE (only about time)	how long (time)

(Hvor længe blive du? / Hvor lang tid bliver du? = How long are you staying?)

## WORD ORDER

### Main Clauses and Subordinate Clauses:

A **MAIN CLAUSE** is one that can stand alone, i.e. is not dependent on another clause.

**Example:** Tom bor hos en dansk familie (Tom lives with a Danish family)

A complex sentence has two or more clauses, at least one of which is subordinate to a main clause, i.e. is dependent on another clause.

**Example:** Tom lærer dansk, fordi han studerer i Danmark (Tom takes Danish because he is studying in Denmark.)

A **SUBORDINATE CLAUSE** is usually - and can always be - introduced by a **subordinate conjunction**:

fordi	because
at	that
når, da	when
mens	while
om	whether, if
hvis	if
selv om	even though, although
som	as

or by a **relative pronoun**:

som, der	who, that, which
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### Word Order in Main Clauses

The ordinary word order in Danish main clauses is:

Subject (s) + Verb (v) + Adverb (a) + Object (o)

**Examples:** Tom ser tit fjernsyn (Tom often watches TV)  
 s v a o s a v o

Tom har aldrig været i England (Tom has never been to England)  
 s v1 a v2 a s v1 a v2 a

Hun har ikke givet ham bogen (she has not given him the book)  
 s v1 a v2 o o s v1 a v2 o o

Vi går somme tider i teatret (we sometimes go to the theatre)  
 s v a a s a v a

Note that in Danish there is no auxiliary verb corresponding to the English "do" in formulating questions.

Word order in questions: Verb + Subject + Adverb + Object.

**Examples:** Han taler dansk (He speaks Danish)

s v o

Taler han dansk? (Does he speak Danish?)

v s o

Han kommer fra USA (He comes from the US)

Kommer han fra USA? (Does he come from the US?)

De bor stadig i Paris (They still live in Paris)

Bor de stadig i Paris? (Do they still live in Paris?)

Hun har studeret dansk (She has studied Danish)

Har hun studeret dansk (Has she studied Danish?)

### INVERSION

Inversion = verb before subject in main clauses.

If the main clause opens with some other member of the clause than the subject, inversion takes place, i.e., the verb precedes the subject.

**Examples:** De kommer i morgen. (They are coming tomorrow)

I morgen kommer de.

Jeg kender ham. (I know him)

Ham kender jeg.

Der er mange værtshuse i København. (There are many bars in Copenhagen)

I København er der mange værtshuse.

Han kommer selvfølgelig i aften. (Of course he is coming tonight)

I aften kommer han selvfølgelig.

Selvfølgelig kommer han i aften.

Hun vil studere økonomi i Danmark. (In Denmark, she will study economics)

I Danmark, vil hun studere økonomi.

De vil rejse til Norge til sommer. (They will go to Norway next summer)

Til sommer vil de rejse til Norge.

If a main clause is preceded by a subordinate clause, inversion will also occur.

<b>Examples:</b> Vi spiser, når du kommer.	(We will eat when you arrive)
Når du kommer spiser vi.	
Hun spiser morgenmad, mens hun hører radio.	(She has her breakfast while
Mens hun hører radio, spiser hun morgenmad.	she listens to the radio)
Han vil skrive et brev, selv om han er træt.	(Even though he is tired,
Selv om han er træt, vil han skrive et brev.	he will write a letter)
Jeg ved ikke, om hun kommer i aften.	(I do not know if she
Om hun kommer i aften, ved jeg ikke.	is coming tonight)
Du kan møde min bror, hvis du kommer i aften.	(You can meet my brother
Hvis du kommer i aften, kan du møde min bror.	if you are coming tonight)

**NOTE 28:** NO INVERSION after: og, eller, men.

**NOTE 29:** NO INVERSION in subordinate clauses.

### THE POSITION OF ADVERBS IN MAIN CLAUSES

In main clauses, adverbs are placed after subject and verb.

**Examples:** Han kommer ikke i morgen (he is not coming tomorrow)

s v a

Hun kan ikke lide wienerbrød (she does not like Danish pastry)

s v a

De ser aldrig fjernsyn (they never watch TV)

s v a

Hun vil gerne spille tennis (she would like to play tennis)

s v a

Han har selvfølgelig læst bogen (of course he has read the book)

s v a

De kommer næsten aldrig for sent (they are hardly ever late)

s v a a

Hun vil måske ikke rejse alene (maybe she will not travel alone)

s v1 a a v2

De vil ikke tage toget (they will not go by train)

s v1 a v2

**NOTE 30:** In compound tenses the adverb is placed between the auxiliary verb (v1) and the main verb (v2).

THE POSITION OF ADVERBS IN SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

In subordinate clauses adverbs are placed between subject and verb.

Examples: Han siger, at han ikke kommer i morgen. (He says that he is not coming tomorrow)

s a v

Hun siger, at hun ikke kan lide wienerbrød. (She says that she does not  
like Danish wienerbrød)

s a v1 v2

De spørger, om du aldrig ser fjernsyn. (They ask, if you never watch TV)

s a v

Hun siger, at hun måske ikke vil rejse alene. (She says that maybe she  
will not travel alone)

s a a v1 v2

De mødes hver dag, fordi hun gerne vil spille tennis. (They meet every day because  
she likes to play tennis)

s a v1 v2

Hun spurgte børnene, om de ikke ville have en is. (She asked the children whether  
they would not like an ice cream)

s a v1 v2

## COUNTRIES AND NATIONS

Country	Adjective/language	Inhabitant
Amerika, USA	amerikansk	en amerikaner
Canada	canadisk	en canadier
Danmark	dansk	en dansker
England	engelsk	en englænder
Finland	finsk	en finne
Frankrig (France)	fransk	en franskmand
Grækenland (Greece)	græsk	en græker
Grønland (Greenland)	grønlandsk	en grønlander
Holland	hollandsk	en hollænder
Irland	irsk	en irer
Italien	italiensk	en italiener
Mexico	mexicansk	en mexicaner
Norden (Scandinavia)	nordisk	en skandinav
Norge (Norway)	norsk	nordmand
Polen	polsk	polak
Schweiz	schweizisk	en schweizer
Skandinavien	skandinavisk	en skandinav
Soviet, Rusland	sovjetisk, russisk	en russer
Spanien (Spain)	spansk	en spanier
Sverige (Sweden)	svensk	en svejser
Sydamerika	sydamerikansk	en sydamerikaner
Tyskland (Germany)	tysk	en tysker
Østrig (Austria)	østrigsk	en østriger

**NOTE 31:** Most Danish people live in cities = De fleste danskere bor i byer

He is Danish = han er dansker

**NOTE 32:** De er amerikanere (they are American)

Hun er amerikaner (she is an American)

Han er dansker (he is a Dane)

## NUMBERS

### CARDINAL NUMBERS

0 nul	
1 en, et	11 elleve
2 to	12 tolv
3 tre	13 tretten
4 fire	14 fjorten
5 fem	15 femten
6 seks	16 seksten
7 syv	17 sytten
8 otte	18 atten
9 ni	19 nitten
10 ti	20 tyve
21 enogtyve	30 enogtredive
22 toogtyve	40 fyrre
23 treogtyve	50 halvtreds
24 fireogtyve	60 tres
25 femogtyve	70 halvfjerds
26 seksogtyve	80 firs
27 syvogtyve	90 halvfems
28 otteogtyve	100 et hundrede
29 niogtyve	1000 et tusinde

100.000	et hundrede tusinde
1.000.000	en million
1.000.000.000	en milliard (a billion)

$1/3$  = en tredjedel

$1/2$  = en halv

$1 \frac{1}{2}$  = halvanden

1,50 kr. = halvanden krone / en krone og halvtreds øre

150 kr. = halvandenhundrede / et hundrede og halvtreds kroner

1985 nitten f ogfirs

1985 nittenhundredeogfemogfirs

**ORDINAL NUMBERS**

1. den første / det første
2. den anden / det andet
3. den / det tredje
4. den / det fjerde
5. den / det femte
6. den / det sjette
7. den / det syvende
8. den / det ottende
9. den / det niende
10. den / det tiende
11. den / det ellevte
12. den / det tolvte
13. den / det trettende
14. den / det fjortende
15. den / det femtende
16. den / det sekstende
17. den / det syttende
18. den / det attende
19. den / det nittende
20. den / det tyvende
21. den / det enogtyvende
22. den / det toogtyvende
23. den / det treogtyvende
24. den / det fireogtyvende
25. den / det femogtyvende
26. den / det seksogtyvende
27. den / det syvogtyvende
28. den / det otteogtyvende
29. den / det niogtyvende
30. den / det tredivte
31. den / det enogtredivte

**NOTE 33:** Han er født den 5. april (He was born on the 5th of April

Den 4.5.1983 = den 4. maj 1983

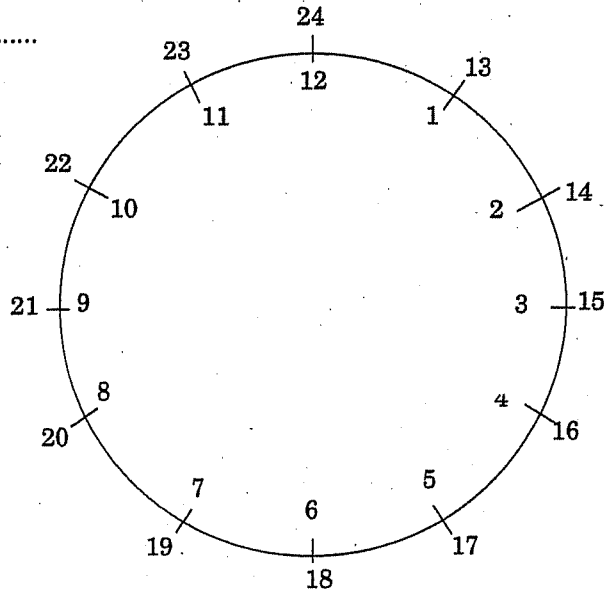


# THE CLOCK

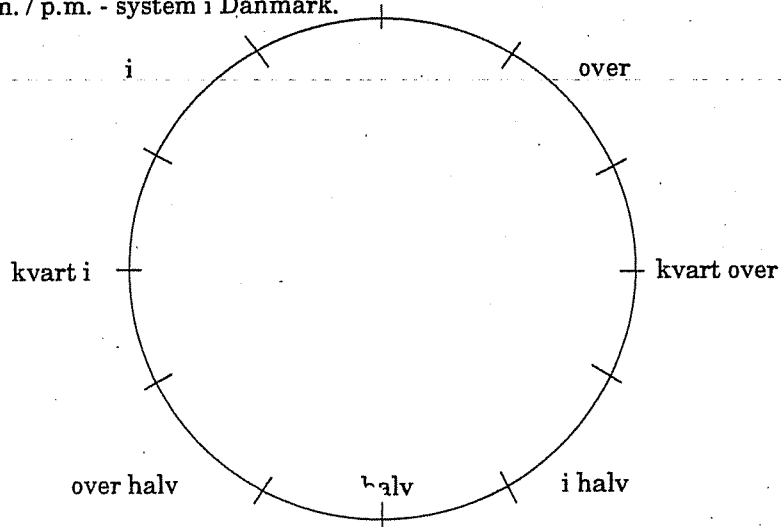
Hvad er klokken? = Hvor mange er klokken? = Hvor meget er klokken?

Klokken er .....

Den er .....

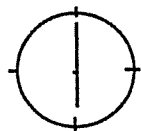


Vi har ikke et a.m. / p.m. - system i Danmark.



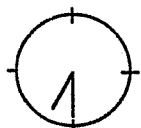
kvart = (et) kvarter  
 en time = 60 minutter  
 et minut = 60 sekunder

## KLOKKEN



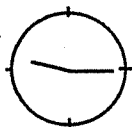
Hvad er klokken?

Klokken er seks  
Den er seks  
Seks



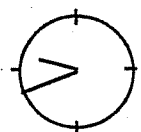
Hvad er klokken?

Klokken er halv syv  
Den er halv syv  
Halv syv  
Halv



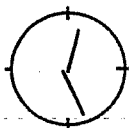
Hvad er klokken?

Klokken er kvart over ni  
Den er kvart over ni  
Kvart over ni  
Kvart over



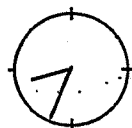
Hvad er klokken?

Klokken er tyve minutter i ti  
Den er tyve minutter i ti  
Tyve minutter i ti  
Tyve minutter i



Hvad er klokken?

Klokken er fem minutter i halv et  
Den er fem minutter i halv et  
Fem minutter i halv et  
Fem minutter i halv



Hvad er klokken?

Klokken er fem minutter over halv ni  
Den er fem minutter over halv ni  
Fem minutter over halv ni  
Fem minutter over halv

Når klokken er 11 i Danmark,  
er den 5 i USA,  
10 i London, og 17 i Kina,  
og 13 omkring Moskva.

Hvor er vi danske et udvalgt folk,  
at vi netop er født i selve  
det lille velsignede land, hvor klokken  
er 11, når den er 11.

By Piet Hein ("Kumbel") Det eneste rigtige/1950

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## TIME EXPRESSIONS

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### Approximately:

- kl. 05.00 - 10.00: MORGEN  
10.00 - 1.00: FORMIDDAG  
12.00 - 13.00: MIDDAG  
13.00 - 18.00: EFTERMIDDAG  
18.00 - 00.00: AFTEN  
00.00 - 05.00: NAT

### Recent past: add - s

- i morges (this morning)  
i formiddags (this morning)  
i middags, ved middagstid (at noon)  
i eftermiddags (this afternoon)  
i aftes, i går aftes (last night)  
**Exception:** i nat (last night - tonight)

### Near future:

- i eftermiddag (this afternoon)  
i aften (tonight, this evening)  
i nat (tonight)  
i morgen tidlig (tomorrow morning)  
i morgen formiddag (tomorrow morning)  
i morgen eftermiddag (tomorrow afternoon)  
i morgen aften (tomorrow night / evening)

3. maj: I FORGÅRS (the day before yesterday)  
4. maj: I GÅR (yesterday)  
5. maj: I DAG (today)  
6. maj: I MORGEN (tomorrow)  
7. maj: I OVERMORGEN (the day after tomorrow)

Mandag, tirsdag, onsdag, torsdag, fredag, lørdag, søndag

Januar, februar, marts, april, maj, juni,  
juli, august, september, oktober, november, december

last -day	on -day(s)	next -day
i mandags	om mandagen	på mandag
i tirsdags	om tirsdagen	på tirsdag
i onsdags	om onsdagen	på onsdag
i torsdags	om torsdagen	på torsdag
i fredags	om fredagen	på fredag
i lørdags	om lørdagen	på lørdag
i søndags	om søndagen	på søndag

**OM + the definite form correspond to English "on" and means:**

- (a) general statement
- (b) a specific time / period in the past or in the future

**Examples:**

- (a) Han drikker kaffe om morgenen (he drinks coffee in the morning)  
 Hun spiller tennis om mandagen (she plays tennis on Mondays)  
 De har dansk om eftermiddagen (they take Danish in the afternoon)  
 Om vinteren er det koldt (it is cold in the winter)  
 Om efteråret regner det tit (it often rains in the fall)
- (b) Om eftermiddagen spillede vi basketball, og om aftenen gik vi i Tivoli (we played basketball in the afternoon and in the evening we went to Tivoli)  
 Om mandagen skal vi besøge vores venner, og om tirsdagen rejser vi til Sverige (on Monday we are going to see our friends and on Tuesday we will go to Sweden)

**NOTE 34:** Om en time (in an hour)  
 Om to dage (in two days)  
 Om en måned (in a month)  
 Om tre år (in three years)

**NOTE 35:** En gang om ugen (once a week)  
 To gange om ugen (twice a week)  
 Fire gange om året (four times a year)

Exception: Fem gange i timen (five times per hour)

Past:	Present:	Future:
i sidste måned	i denne måned	i næste måned
i januar		i / til januar
sidste år	i år	næste år
i sidste uge	i denne uge	i næste uge

## DIRECTIONS FOR USE OF THE DICTIONARIES

### The English-Danish Dictionary

In this dictionary you can look up English words and find Danish equivalents. The first Danish words mentioned usually corresponds to the most frequent use of the English word. If you know two or three different Danish words and you do not know which one to choose, it sometimes helps to look them up in the Danish-English Dictionary to see if it gives more specific information about the exact meaning of each word. Remember that quite a few English words have more than one meaning and maybe belong to more than one class of words.

**Example:** *show, long.* After each word the word class it belongs to is listed by means of the following abbreviations:

adj: adjective	(you can find the total list
adv: adverb	on one of the first pages of
sb: noun	the dictionary)
vb: verb	

<b>Example:</b> 1. show vb: vise	(to show - verb)
show sb: udstilling	(a show - noun)
2. long adj: lang	(a long way - adjective)
long vb: længes	(to long for something - verb)

### The Danish-English Dictionary

To find explanations and irregularities in the flexation of Danish words, you have to look up the Danish word in this dictionary. But you must know how to interpret the explanations. On one of the first pages of the dictionary you will find directions for use in English.

**Nouns:** After nouns, the gender and the plural are indicated, the gender by the addition of "en" or "et", the plural by either -r, -er, -e or -, the latter indicating that the noun is unchanged in the plural:

pige (en -r) : girl

bil (en -er) : car

hus (et -e) : house

sten (en) - : stone

With this information you know all four forms of the noun. The plural indefinite ending is given, and to form the plural definite you add -ne or -ene (see p. 146).

If there are any irregularities in the inflexion, the dictionary will say so.

**Examples:** mand (en, mænd) : man  
tå (en, tæer) : toe

If you want to look up a compound word to find out how it is inflected, you look up the final element of the compound.

universitetsbygning (university building)  
look up: bygning  
bygning (en -er)

**Verbs:** If, after the verb, it just says 'vb' and then gives the English translation, the verb follows the first conjugation (see p. 147)

**Example:** arbejde vb: work

Now you know it is the type of verb that has -ede in the past and -et in the present perfect.

If, after the verb, it says \*, you know that the verb follows the second conjugation:

**Example:** spise \* : eat

Now you know it is the type of verb that gets -te in the past and -t in the present perfect.

If the verb is irregular, the dictionary will give the past and the present perfect. You know that you add -r to the infinitive to form the present tense.

**Example:** go vb (gik gået : go)