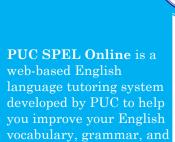
Grammar Reference

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'Ever' - 'Never'

• 'Ever,' when used in a question (normally in the simple present or in the present perfect), is placed between the auxiliary and the main verb.

Example: Do you ever play tennis?

Have you ever tried going on the Internet?

<u>Note</u>. 'Sometimes' is used in non-interrogative clauses.

<u>Example</u>: I sometimes go swimming.

• 'Ever' can be used in affirmative clauses where 'if' or a superlative is present.

Example: She's the nicest girl I've ever met.

Visit the Eiffel Tower if you ever go to Paris.

 The negation 'never' is accompanied by verbs in the affirmative.

Example: I never drink and drive.

I almost never subcontract.

 Accordingly, 'ever' is used instead of 'never' in clauses already containing negations.

Example: No one ever comes to visit me. Nothing's ever perfect.

'Some,' 'any': singular or plural?

When 'some,' 'any,' 'none,' 'all' and 'most' refer to a singular noun, the verb is singular.

When they refer to a plural noun, the verb is plural.

Example:

Some of the **meal was** really good. **Some** of the **books are** quite funny.

None of the presentation seems interesting.

None of the stories seem interesting.

Nouns without singular forms

Some plural nouns have no singular forms. These include the following.

 certain nouns referring to objects composed of two symmetrical parts, e.g. 'jeans,' 'shorts,' 'pajamas,' 'pants,' or 'scissors'

<u>Note</u>. When used as countable nouns, such nouns are preceded by 'a pair of.'

Example: My pants are too short.

She bought two pairs of scissors.

certain collective nouns, e.g. 'clothes,'
 'goods,' 'people,' 'cattle,' or 'poultry'

Example: **People** are very friendly here.

Note.

At times, 'people' is the plural form of 'person.' 'Head of cattle,' in which 'head' is invariable, is the singular of 'cattle.'

The rare 'article of clothing' is the singular of 'clothes.'

<u>Example</u>: There were ten **people** at the party. They have ten **head of cattle**.

· 'savings,' 'riches' and 'remains'

Example:

She used her savings to invest in a start-up.