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Grammar Reference

1. Use of 'both'

'Both' is used in the following ways and refers to exactly two elements:

- as an **adjective**

Example: **Both** children are sleeping.
Both versions are identical.

- as a **pronoun**

Example: Are you writing or listening?
I'm doing **both**.

'Both of' + **personal pronoun** is used as a **quantifier**.

Example: Hands up! **Both of** you!

2. Absence of necessity

To express **absence of necessity**, the following forms are used:

- '**Needn't**' + **infinitive without 'to'** expresses the **speaker's opinion**, usually in the present.

Example: You **needn't bring** your bike. It's not that far.

- '**Don't/doesn't need to**' + **infinitive without 'to'** may be used in all tenses and suggests **neutrality**.

Example: You **don't need to bring** your bike, they'll lend you one.
I **didn't need to come**.

- **'Don't/doesn't have to' + infinitive without 'to'** may be used in all tenses to express opinions and facts.

Example: You **don't have to go** to any trouble.
I **won't have to have** X-rays, will I?

3. Nouns and adjectives of nationality

English **nouns** and **adjectives of nationality** can be divided into the following four categories:

- in certain cases, **only an adjective exists**. To form the **noun** form, another **noun**, which designates some category of person, is added. In such a case, the **collective noun** is formed using **'the' + adjective**.

Example: I'm **English**.
Yesterday, I met an **English woman**.
The English are fond of tea.

- in other cases, the **singular noun** and the **adjective** are **identical**. The **collective** is expressed using **'the' + the plural noun** form.

Example: I married a **Norwegian**.
The Norwegians are used to the cold.

- sometimes, the **singular noun differs** from the **adjective** and the **collective noun** form is **'the' + the plural noun**.

Example: A **Spaniard** is coming tonight.
The **Spanish** government.
The Spaniards have lunch at 2 p.m.

- finally, sometimes the **noun, adjective, and collective** forms are all **identical**.

Example: I bought some **Portuguese** wine.
The **Portuguese** are a warm people.

Note.

- **Adjectives of nationality** are **capitalized**.
- Many nationality **adjectives** are identical to the **nouns** designating the corresponding **languages**.

Example: He speaks **French, Russian** and **Chinese**.