

Decoding Numbers in English

Teacher Pack

Level: B1-B2 **Time:** 60-75 minutes **Skills:** Listening, pronunciation, speaking, vocabulary

Lesson aims

Students will recognise and produce common English number forms, with particular attention to big numbers, dates, fractions, decimals, mathematical symbols and context-dependent ways of saying zero.

Suggested procedure

Stage	Time	Procedure
Lead-in	8	Students attempt four example numbers; compare variants.
First viewing	7	Watch without stopping. Identify the main number categories.
Pair check	4	Compare categories and remembered examples.
Second viewing	10	Pause after key sections; students note rules/examples.
Language drill	10	Choral/individual drilling; contrast teen/ty and chunk large numbers.
Quiz	8	Students complete the online self-check.
Dictation swap	10	Pairs dictate mixed number types.
Production	10-15	60-second mini-presentation using four+ numbers.

Core language guidance

Dates: British English commonly uses an ordinal in speech: 4 June -> the fourth of June. **Decimals:** say point, then normally read following digits individually: 1.25 -> one point two five. **Fractions:** 1/4 -> a/one quarter; 1 1/4 -> one and a quarter. **Maths:** + plus, - minus, × times/multiplied by, ÷ divided by.

Zero: Explain that choice depends on context. Zero is general; oh is common in some spoken sequences; nil is associated with some sports scores; love is traditional in tennis.

Pronunciation priorities

1) Chunk large numbers into meaningful groups. 2) Make ordinal endings audible. 3) Contrast thirteen/thirty etc. 4) Keep decimal digits separate after point. 5) Encourage clarification questions when a number could be misheard.

Quiz key

1 B - one point two five. 2 A - the fourth of June. 3 C - one and a quarter. 4 B - divided by. 5 C - love. 6 A - nil.

Extension

Students bring a graph, price list or set of statistics from their work/interests and give a one-minute spoken report. Partners record every number they hear and then verify accuracy.