

Unit 3

Some-, any-, every-, no-, none



Grammar in Context

Theme: Resources and energy conservation

Words by
Theme



Read the excerpt from a biography and answer the questions.

At the young age of 14, William Kamkwamba believed that **anything** was possible. He wanted to build **something** to make life easier for his poor family. At first, his family was not supportive. **None** of his friends, except Gilbert and Geoffrey, thought he could succeed. Nevertheless, **nobody** could stop him from trying.

Every day, William spent a lot of time in the scrapyards¹ with Gilbert and Geoffrey to find **something** useful for his invention². In the beginning, **nothing** seemed to work. Yet, he did not give up. One day, he discovered³ that bicycle parts could help generate⁴ power. He searched **everywhere**, but he could not find the right parts. At last, he summoned the courage to ask his father for his bicycle, the only vehicle in the family. His father had never seen **someone** so determined⁵, so he let William take his bicycle.



Later, **everything** seemed to fall into place. William made a modern windmill to generate energy for his family. He did not stop there. He kept testing different recycled materials⁶. Finally, he built a solar-powered⁷ water pump for the whole village. **Everyone** in the village was pleased.



The Boy Who Uses The Wind ▶

1. Look at the blue words. They are indefinite pronouns. Answer each question with ONE word.

(i) Which word means *no people*?

(ii) Which word means *all things*?

(iii) Are the indefinite pronouns singular or plural?

2. Are the following statements correct? Put a tick (✓) or a cross (✗) in each box.

(i) William thought everything was possible.

(ii) Two of William's friends supported his dream to create something new.

(iii) William's father did not believe anything William said.



Indefinite pronouns

Indefinite pronouns do not refer to any person, thing, or place in particular.

	some-	any-	no-	every-	none
	+ singular verb				+ singular / plural verb
People	<i>someone</i>	<i>anyone</i>	<i>no one</i>	<i>everyone</i>	<i>none of the boys / them</i>
	<i>somebody</i>	<i>anybody</i>	<i>nobody</i>	<i>everybody</i>	
Things	<i>something</i>	<i>anything</i>	<i>nothing</i>	<i>everything</i>	<i>none of the news / it</i>
Places	<i>somewhere</i>	<i>anywhere</i>	<i>nowhere</i>	<i>everywhere</i>	<i>none of the rooms / them</i>


PART 1A some-

We use *somebody*, *someone*, *something* or *somewhere* in the following situations.

	Positive statements	Questions (expecting a positive answer)
People	<i>Somebody</i> is knocking on the door.	Can <i>someone</i> open the door?
Things	The baby draws <i>something</i> on the wall.	Could Mr Lee write <i>something</i> for our yearbook?
Places	The cat hid <i>somewhere</i> in the kitchen.	Can we go <i>somewhere</i> else to talk?

PART 1B any-

We use *anybody*, *anyone*, *anything* or *anywhere* in the following situations.

	Negative statements (meaning no)	Questions	Positive statements
People	There wasn't <i>anybody</i> in the park last night.	Does <i>anyone</i> have a phone charger?	<i>Anyone</i> can save a life. 
Things	My aunt hasn't eaten <i>anything</i> today.	Is there <i>anything</i> I can do for you?	<i>Anything</i> is possible.
Places	I don't have <i>anywhere</i> to store my action figures.	Did you go <i>anywhere</i> last Christmas?	You can go <i>anywhere</i> you want.



Exercise 1.1

Complete the conversation with indefinite pronouns containing *some-* or *any-*.



Did you see (1) _____ anybody _____ in the car park last night? (2) _____ hit my car and left a large dent! Please have (3) _____ look into it.

I didn't see (4) _____ suspicious last night. Maybe the person who did it was caught on the CCTV (5) _____ in the car park.



Can you please do (6) _____ about it?

No problem. If (7) _____ knows (8) _____, I'll let you know.



More to take away

dent (n.) = a hollow in the surface, usually caused by being hit



Exercise 1.2

Vanessa has left a message on the website of a social service organisation. There are some mistakes. Correct the underlined mistakes and write the correct words in the spaces provided.



www.fostercare.org.hk/contactus

Leave us a message and we will get back to you shortly.

(1) Someone in the city, many children are left home alone. Their working parents wouldn't ask (2) somebody else to take care of them. These children don't have (3) somewhere to go after school. They may do (4) anything dangerous because they don't really know (5) something about safety. Can some charities give these children care and support at (6) anywhere safe? They need to interact with (7) anyone. Also, when they are upset, they need (8) somewhere to talk to.

Send

1. Somewhere
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.

PART 2A every-

We use *everybody*, *everyone*, *everything* or *everywhere* to refer to all.

Positive statement	Question	Negative statement
My dog is friendly to <i>everyone</i> .	Could <i>everybody</i> pay attention?	The cook put <i>everything</i> in one pot.

PART 2B no- & none

We use *nobody*, *no one*, *nothing*, *nowhere* or *none* in positive statements to show that the number is zero.

no-, none = zero, not any

- There is *no one* in the basement. = There isn't anyone in the basement.
- *Nobody* likes this ice cream flavour. = Not anybody likes this ice cream flavour.
- Do not use another negative (e.g. *isn't* and *doesn't*) with *no-*.
- I said *nothing* in the meeting. = I didn't say anything in the meeting.
- The tourists have *nowhere* to stay tonight. = The tourists do not have anywhere to stay tonight.
- I prefer *none* of the destinations. = I do not prefer any of the destinations.
- *None* of the guests want(s) coffee. ← *none* + countable noun + singular / plural verb
- *None* of the information is correct. ← *none* + uncountable noun + singular verb
- A: How many cupcakes did you have?
B: *None*. I don't have a sweet tooth. ← *None* (X no) can be used alone as a pronoun.



Exercise 2.1

Circle the correct answers for the following sentences.

- The talk was full and (anyone / everyone / no one) arrived early.
- There is (everywhere / nowhere / anywhere) for Eliza to sit.
- (No one / None / Anyone) of the students go to school on foot.
- (Anything / Everything / Something) in the pantry is gone. Let's stock it up now.
- The magician has put (anything / nothing / something) in the box. What is it?
- Paul didn't order (none / anything / something) from that online store.
- (No one / None / Anyone) likes the sushi here because it is not fresh.
- (Nobody / Someone / Anyone) wants to help that selfish neighbour.
- Mum couldn't find her earrings (everywhere / nowhere / anywhere).
- Does (everybody / anybody / no one) know first aid? I have sprained my ankle.



Exercise 2.2

Denise is drafting an email to ask for donations of used clothes. Complete the email using the indefinite pronouns containing *some-, any-, every-, no-, or none*.

Subject: Project Santa Claus

Send

Dear classmates,

Are you (1) _____ someone _____ who buys clothes without thinking? Do your old clothes have (2) _____ to go except the recycling bins? In fact, you can do (3) _____ to help the poor this Christmas!

My family and I are collecting used clothes. (4) _____ we collect will go to Project Santa Claus. The charity will send the clothes to underprivileged families where (5) _____ can afford warm clothes. In many of these families, (6) _____ of the children have thick coats.

We are collecting winter clothes only. (7) _____ in good condition is acceptable. Please make sure the clothes are clean and (8) _____ is left in the pockets before you give them away.

The collection point will be (9) _____ in our school. I will send you another email about the location next week. If you know (10) _____ else who has clothes to donate, please forward them this email. Thank you.

Best,
Denise



PART 3 Indefinite pronoun + adjective / adverbial expression

We can add adjectives or adverbial expressions after indefinite pronouns to make them more specific.

Examples	
A: Shall we do <i>something interesting</i> today?	B: There's <i>nothing much</i> to do on a rainy day.
A: Is there <i>anything special</i> about your new bedroom?	B: I turned <i>everything pink</i> .
A: What do you want to eat?	B: <i>Anything from the tuck shop</i> will do.



Exercise 3

Match the correct word to each sentence.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. There is nothing <input type="text"/> we can do except wait. | • | • <input type="text" value="else"/> |
| 2. Did you go anywhere <input type="text"/> in the summer holiday? | • | • <input type="text" value="much"/> |
| 3. Everyone <input type="text"/> has said yes except for you. | • | • <input type="text" value="exciting"/> |
| 4. Do you notice anything <input type="text"/> about this creepy photo? | • | • <input type="text" value="different"/> |
| 5. I'm tired of cup noodles. Can we have something <input type="text"/> for dinner? | • | • <input type="text" value="strange"/> |

PART 4 To-infinitives after indefinite pronouns

We can use *to*-infinitives after indefinite pronouns.

Examples
▪ Michael has <i>no one to play</i> basketball with.
▪ The farmer doesn't have <i>anything to open</i> the coconut.
▪ The homeless man found <i>somewhere warm and safe to spend</i> the night.

Reminder

When we refer to an indefinite pronoun, we use a plural pronoun in today's English:

Everybody enjoyed the concert. They stood up and clapped.
If *anybody* is sick, they can contact the staff.

We can also use a singular pronoun to refer to an indefinite pronoun:

Someone has forgotten to take his or her keys.

Error Diagnosis

We do not put prepositions (e.g. *to*, *in* and *at*) before *-where* words.

It is nice to live in somewhere near the sea. ✗

It is nice to live *somewhere* near the sea. ✓

Brian doesn't go to anywhere noisy. ✗

Brian doesn't go *anywhere* noisy. ✓

**Exercise 4.1**

There is **ONE** mistake in each sentence. **Underline the wrong word and write the correct word in the box. Cross out the extra word and write it in the box.**

	Corrections
1. Should we go to somewhere cool this weekend?	to
2. If anyone is late, the teacher will put down her names here.	
3. There is nothing appropriate to place this computer. It is too big.	
4. Mr Smith works in somewhere close to the city centre.	
5. Nowhere exciting was happening in the film. Everyone gasped.	
6. The baby is looking at something of funny.	
7. I don't have nothing to cut this ribbon with.	

**Exercise 4.2**

Carl and Jane are on a video call. Complete their conversation by circling the best answers.

Carl: Jane, how's your revision going? I have difficulty focusing on my revision. I can't memorise **(1)** (everything / anything / something) from my notes.



Jane: **(2)** (Is someone / Are someone / Does anyone) in your place shouting? It really sounds a bit chaotic.

Carl: My little brothers are fighting over **(3)** (anything / something / everything) trivial again.

Jane: You should go **(4)** (to somewhere / in somewhere / somewhere) quiet to study.

Carl: But the public study rooms are always full. Our school closes early and coffee shops are expensive. **(5)** (Nowhere / None / Nothing) of these places are ideal. I have **(6)** (anywhere / somewhere / nowhere) to go. Do you know **(7)** (anywhere / somewhere / nowhere) nice and quiet?



Jane: Actually, I'm studying at a community centre near my home. **(8)** (Anyone / No one / Someone) with a student card can use the space. **(9)** (Someone / Anyone / Everyone) at the study room here is considerate. There're always seats available too! You can't find a better place **(10)** (anywhere / somewhere / nowhere) else.

**Brain Breaks**

Funny things that could happen during a group video chat:

1. Pets want to 'participate' whenever you log on.
2. You use face filters by accident.
3. You leave your mic on when your parents are arguing.



Grammar Wrap-up

Ted is writing a project proposal for a competition. Complete the proposal using the correct indefinite pronouns.

Hong Kong Youth Science Innovation Competition

Proposal of a Green Invention




Name: Ted Lam
Invention: Power Pedo
Main Function: To generate electricity by walking
Target Users: (1) Anyone who walks regularly and needs a portable charger

Introduction

Have you ever imagined that you can generate energy just by walking? When you are walking, your motion can produce energy. The energy then becomes electricity. With Power Pedo, (2) _____ can turn their movement into (3) _____ useful. That is why Power Pedo can be a green portable charger.

Features of the invention

 Power Pedo is a pedometer that you can wear like a watch. It can do (4) _____ a smartwatch can do. For example, heart rate measurement, calorie calculation and GPS. Power Pedo has (5) _____ to do with the annoying battery issue a smartwatch usually has. It is also light in weight. It feels like (6) _____ on your wrist. It comes in different sizes. (7) _____ can wear it, including children and the elderly.

The Pros

Power Pedo is especially useful when you go travelling (8) _____ far from the cities and towns. There is (9) _____ like it in the current market. Power banks, car chargers and USB chargers are popular, but (10) _____ of them can provide long-lasting power. When you are wearing Power Pedo, you can generate electricity (11) _____ you go and as long as you like, just by walking. From now on, (12) _____ has to worry about forgetting to charge their phones! Power Pedo is the perfect gadget for (13) _____ who wants (14) _____ useful and compact.

The Cons

Power Pedo is not for (15) _____ who sits all day.



Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme:
Resources and energy conservation

You are drafting a school notice for the principal. There are some mistakes. Correct the underlined mistakes and write the correct words in the spaces provided.



Long River School

NOTICE

13 July 20XX

Ways to Save Energy

To be a responsible member of the school and to help conserve¹ our school's energy and resources, please follow these guidelines:

- When **(1)** someone is going to stay in the classroom, turn off all the lights, fans and air-conditioners. **(2)** Anyone should turn on the air-conditioners in the classroom when the temperature is below 22°C.
- Always recycle. Put **(3)** something recyclable² into the correct recycling bins³. If you find **(4)** nothing that should not be in a recycle bin, take it out and report to a teacher. **(5)** None wet, dirty or smelly should be in the bins.
- Make good use of⁴ natural sunlight in the school hall. At recess or after school, go **(6)** to somewhere with moderate sunlight to read or play. Turn on the lights in the hall only when necessary.
- **(7)** No one should use reusable⁵ water bottles.
- Projectors, televisions, computers and tablets—**(8)** everything of them should be left plugged in after class.
- Do not use mobile phones **(9)** somewhere in the school and do not charge any electronic devices⁶ at school. If anyone needs to contact **(10)** your parents, go to the school office.
- Do not keep the water tap running when it is not in use. If **(11)** nobody plays with water, they will receive a punishment.
- Do not waste food. Try to finish **(12)** anything at lunch. You can always ask for smaller portions.

D. Tang

Dr David Tang
Principal



More to take away

recyclable (adj.) = able to be recycled

e.g. *Recyclable waste in Hong Kong can amount to over 1.5 million tonnes annually.*

recyclables (plural noun) = objects that can be recycled

e.g. *Rubbish can be upgraded to recyclables.*

Words by
Theme



1. _____ no one _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

We use indefinite pronouns to refer to unidentified people, things and places.



- Have you seen **anyone** wearing our club's T-shirt? (person, question)
- The stray dog doesn't have **anything** to eat. (thing, negative statement)
- We are going **somewhere** safe to set up camp. (place, positive statement)

Version 1

Natalie is writing a letter to her uncle who is a social worker. Read the letter and pay attention to the underlined parts.

Dear Uncle George,

How are you? Are you busy working at the community centre? **(1) I have a story to share with you about my neighbour.**

My neighbour is an old lady in her 80s. **(2) She lives alone and not a person in her family has ever visited her.** **(3) I see her collecting cardboard and aluminium cans in areas nearby every day.** She has a hunchback. She cannot walk very well. **(4) I'm sorry to see a person who is old and weak work in the street.**

In a well-off society, **(5) old people who live alone are not supposed to collect rubbish for a living.** Certainly, the old lady's income is extremely low. She eats leftovers from dustbins to get through the worst days. Nor does she have enough to wear in colder seasons. **(6) It seems that she doesn't get any of the government's allowances.**

(7) Sometimes, a passer-by would give her money but she refuses to take any. Once, I bought her some food and clothes. **(8) She didn't take them.** She insisted, 'I'm not a beggar. I can still work.'

I'm sure you know some NGOs that can help this old lady. Also, could you tell me how we can assist her to apply for the Old Age Living Allowance? Write back soon.

Cheers,

Natalie

Version 2

Rewrite the underlined parts in Version 1 using the given words.

Dear Uncle George,

How are you? Are you busy working at the community centre? **(1)** I have something to share with you about my neighbour (something).

My neighbour is an old lady in her 80s. **(2)** _____
 _____ (no one). **(3)** _____
 _____ (somewhere).

She has a hunchback. She cannot walk very well. **(4)** _____
 _____ (somebody).

In a well-off society, **(5)** _____
 _____ (anyone). Certainly, the old lady's income is extremely low. She eats leftovers from dustbins to get through the worst days. Nor does she have enough to wear in colder seasons. **(6)** _____
 _____ (none).

(7) _____
 _____ (someone).

Once, I bought her some food and clothes. **(8)** _____ (none).
 She insisted, 'I'm not a beggar. I can still work.'

I'm sure you know some NGOs that can help this old lady. Also, could you tell me how we can assist her to apply for the Old Age Living Allowance? Write back soon.

Cheers,
 Natalie

